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Weekend



Auto executives testify on Capitol Hill Thursday.

'Death Sentence': Auto
execs' pleas meet skepticism | **3**

Big Deal: Chevy Chase Bank
takes Capitol One buyout | **10**



Fan Favorite:
Ravens' Flacco is
envy of Redskins
faithful | **12**

ENTERTAINMENT

Singing '60s:

Beyonce Knowles
stars as Etta
James in the
overly ambi-
tious, musi-
cally magi-
cal 'Cadillac
Records.'

>> 19-26



STAR PRESENTS

Holiday gift ideas for the celebrities on your list **>> STYLES**



DAN BAULTY/AP

Israel Ejects Settlers in Hebron

TAKEN AWAY: Israeli police scuffle with young women supporting the Jewish settler movement on Thursday during the evacuation of a disputed house in the West Bank city of Hebron. Soldiers stormed the building, dragging out 250 settlers from the house in what was meant as a warning to Jewish extremists to leave the biblical city. Activists fought back but lost the battle with the troops.

Research: Cheer Is Infectious

Study says happiness spreads
even outside of social circles

LONDON | When you're smiling, the whole world really does smile with you. A paper being published Friday in a British medical journal concludes that happiness is contagious — and that people pass on their good cheer even to total strangers.

American researchers who tracked more than 4,700 people in Framingham, Mass., as part of a 20-year heart study also found the transferred happiness is good for up to a year.

"Happiness is like a stampede," said Nicholas Christakis, a professor in Harvard University's sociology department and co-author of the study along with the University of California in San Diego's James Fowler.

For this study, published in the British journal *BMJ*, the professors found distinct happy and unhappy clusters significantly bigger than would be expected by chance.

Happy people tended to be at the center of social networks and had many friends who were also happy. Having friends or siblings nearby increased people's chances of being upbeat. Happiness spread outward by three degrees, to the friends of friends of friends. **MARIA CHENG (AP)**



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FRIDAY
40 | 28



SATURDAY
40 | 31



SUNDAY
39 | 24

TODAY: Partly sunny with a noticeable drop in daytime temperatures | **38**

eyeOpeners

FOUND OBJECTS

'Hi, Future! Are There Flying Cars Yet?'

A message in a bottle tossed into the ocean off Barnegat Bay, N.J., has turned up in North Carolina—39 years later. The note was sealed in a Schaefer beer bottle. It was dated Aug. 17, 1969, and read: "If found notify the North Haledon Fire Co. 2." Mark Ciarmello and his 3-year-old daughter found the bottle along a beach in Corolla, N.C., in October. That's about 400 miles from where it was released. Ciarmello said he called North Haledon and e-mailed photos of the bottle to the firefighters. No one is sure who tossed the bottle. But firefighters suspect it was during one of the many fishing trips that they used to go on years ago. (AP)



ANIMALS

Feeling the Pinch

A lady lobster with four claws was pulled from the deep this week in the waters off Newport, R.I. With a large crusher claw and three pincher claws—instead of the usual one—the crustacean was unlike anything lobsterman Patrick Marks had ever seen in his 14 years of catching the creatures. All of the lobster's excess appendages worked. Marks trapped the mutated animal about 60 miles south of Newport and hauled her up on Monday. Marks told the Newport Daily News he sometimes lets lobsters go out of guilt when they look at him funny. So, after he showed off the multi-clawed lobster for most of the day, he let her go. She weighed 1.5 pounds and could have sold for \$7.50 retail. (AP)



PAUL KANE/GETTY IMAGES

MUSIC

Concerto In Sea

A musician stands in the surf on North Cottesloe Beach in Australia as part of an art installation in which members of the West Australian Symphony get their nice work clothes all wet in the service of creating surrealist art. Artist Andrew Baines has done many similar installations involving people of various professions standing in the ocean. No word on who pays the cleaning bills or whether insurance covers any stray Strads if they're accidentally dropped in the water. (EXPRESS)

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Singing, the Anti-Drug

Houston's Bush International Airport is setting up karaoke booths for travelers. One was to be up and run-

ning on Thursday afternoon. For the past two years, officials have invited choirs and bands from high schools and churches to perform at Bush and Hobby airports in December. Karaoke seemed to be the next logical step, said

Caroline Schneider, assistant airport manager for customer service. "During the holidays, we have a lot of our novice travelers," she said. "We thought while they are waiting, they can just sing a song." (AP)

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TASTES LIKE 2009: Mobile, Ala., will ring in 2009 with chocolate, graham crackers and marshmallows. Partygoers at the city's New Year's Eve celebration will dine on the world's largest Moon Pie, and at the stroke of midnight, a giant electric Moon Pie model will drop in lieu of a ball.

Nation

Blackwater Indictments Considered

Justice Department may bring charges in deadly Iraq shooting

WASHINGTON | Blackwater World-wide guards involved in the deadly 2007 Baghdad shooting of Iraqi

30

The mandatory prison sentence, in years, Blackwater guards could face if convicted under an anti-drug law.

civilians could face mandatory 30-year prison sentences under an aggressive anti-drug law being considered as the Justice Department readies indictments, people close to the case said.

Charges could be announced as early as Monday for the shooting, which left 17 civilians dead and strained U.S. relations with the fledgling Iraqi government. Prosecutors have been reviewing a draft indictment and considering manslaughter and assault charges for weeks.

Though drugs were not involved in the Blackwater shooting, the Justice Department is pondering the use of a law, passed at the height of the nation's crack epidemic, to prosecute the guards. The Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 law calls for 30-year prison terms for using machine guns to commit violent crimes of any kind. (AP)



From left, General Motors CEO Richard Wagoner, UAW President Ron Gettelfinger, Ford CEO Alan Mulally and Chrysler CEO Robert Nardelli testify on Capitol Hill.

Auto Execs Plead for \$34B in Aid

Lawmakers press Big Three to consider options for bankruptcy

WASHINGTON | Desperate U.S. automakers ran into fresh obstacles from skeptical lawmakers Thursday as they appealed with rising urgency — and a new dose of humility — for a \$34 billion bailout. Without help, said one senator, “we’re looking at a death sentence.”

With lawmakers in both parties pressing the automakers to consider a pre-negotiated bankruptcy, the Big Three were contemplating a

“I believe we could lose General Motors by the end of the month.”

RON GETTELFINGER, UAW PRESIDENT

government-run restructuring that could yield results similar to bankruptcy, including massive downsizing, in return for the bailout billions. But there was no assurance they could get even that.

The auto executives pleaded with lawmakers at a contentious Capitol Hill hearing for emergency aid before year's end. But with time running out on the current Congress, skepticism about the bailout appeared to be as strong as ever.

“In all due respect, folks, I don't think there's faith that the next ... three months will work out, given the past history,” said Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y.

Chris Dodd, chairman of the Banking Committee, was the senator who spoke of a death sentence but also said, “We're not going to leave town without trying” to help.

Repentant after a botched first crack at bailout pleas, the executives from General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co. and Chrysler LLC agreed that a bailout deal would include a supervisory government board that could order overhauls of the companies.

United Auto Workers union President Ron Gettelfinger told senators that any kind of bankruptcy was not “a viable option.”

Gettelfinger also warned that, without action by Congress, “I believe we could lose General Motors by the end of this month.”

JULIE HIRSCHFELD DAVIS (AP)



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WPEX

Nation


NEW HOME: President Bush and first lady Laura Bush have bought a home in an affluent Dallas neighborhood, where they will live after the president leaves office in January.

Uzi Death Brings Charges

Boy accidentally shot himself in the head when gun kicked back

SPRINGFIELD, MASS. | Three men, including a small-town police chief, were indicted Thursday on involuntary manslaughter counts in the gun-fair death of an 8-year-old who accidentally shot himself in the head with an Uzi that a prosecutor said he never should have been allowed to handle.

The club where the fair was held also was charged. The fair had promised shooters would have certified instructors in an advertisement, but District Attorney William Bennett said the child, Christopher Bizilj, was supervised by an uncertified 15-year-old boy.

Christopher, of Ashford, Conn., lost control of the 9mm micro submachine gun as it recoiled while he was firing at a pumpkin Oct. 26 at the Machine Gun Shoot and Firearms Expo at the Westfield Sportsman's Club in western



Domenico Spano, front, has been indicted in the shooting death of an 8-year-old.

Massachusetts.

Pelham Police Chief Edward Fleury was charged because he owns the sponsor of the gun fair, COP Firearms & Training. Two men who brought the automatic

weapon to the show — Carl Guiffre of Hartford, Conn., and Domenico Spano of New Milford, Conn. — also were indicted.

Fleury and the club also were indicted on four counts each of furnishing a machine gun to a minor. A conviction on each count is punishable by up to 10 years in prison, up to \$10,000 in fines and the loss of a firearms license for at least 10 years.

Christopher's father was 10 feet behind him and reaching for his camera when the child fired the weapon.

Bennett said Charles Bizilj had selected the compact weapon for his 4-foot-3, 66-pound son to fire after he was assured it was safe.

The father was not charged because he was a layman and based his decision on information from others who should have known it was too dangerous, Bennett said. The 15-year-old boy who was supervising Christopher with the Uzi also will not be charged, he added.

STEPHANIE REITZ (AP)

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World

17

The number of months it took the first solar-powered car to travel around the world. Louis Palmer, a 36-year-old Swiss schoolteacher who drove the car, ended his 32,000-mile journey across 38 countries in Poznan, Poland, Thursday, at the site of the U.N. climate talks.

Canadian PM Suspends Parliament

Facing no-confidence vote, Harper attempts to hold onto power

OTTAWA | Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper shut down Parliament on Thursday in an unprecedented attempt to keep his Conservative government in power, fending off a no-confidence vote he was all but certain to lose.

Less than two months after winning re-election, Harper successfully asked the unelected representative of the head of state for the power to close down Parliament until Jan. 26, hoping to buy enough time to develop a stimulus package that could prop up the economy.

"The opposition's criticism is that we have to focus on the economy immediately, and today's decision



Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper arrives at a meeting to request the power to suspend Parliament until Jan. 26 in Ottawa, Canada, on Thursday.

will give us an opportunity — I'm talking about all the parties — to focus on the economy and work together," Harper said after the two-and-a-half hour meeting.

Harper said a budget will be the first order of business when Parliament resumes.

Three opposition parties have united against Harper, charging he has failed to insulate Canada from the global financial crisis.

Liberal leader Stephane Dion said the opposition would seek to oust Harper unless he makes a "monumental change" in dealing with the economy and other parties.

"For the first time in the history of Canada, the prime minister is running away from the Parliament of Canada," Dion said.

ROB GILLIES (AP)

In Brief



Thai King Bhumibol Adulyadej was too ill to give a birthday speech Thursday.

BANGKOK, THAILAND King Skips Public Address, Worrying Thai Citizens

Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej failed to show up to deliver his anxiously awaited annual birthday address Thursday, shocking a country already reeling from three years of political turmoil. The revered 81-year-old monarch was weak and suffering from bronchitis and inflammation of the esophagus, said Princess Sirindhorn. She added that his "condition is not serious." (AP)

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA Ship With 122 Passengers Runs Aground in Antarctic

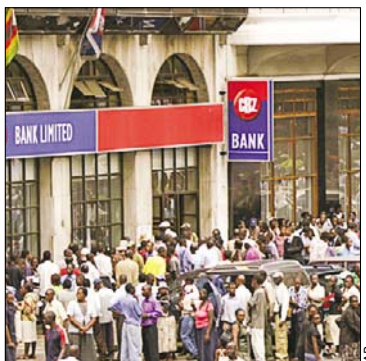
A cruise ship carrying 122 people is taking on water after running aground Thursday in the Antarctic but is in no danger of sinking, the Argentine navy said. The Panamanian-flagged Ushuaia — with 89 passengers and 33 Argentine crew members — sent out an alarm around midday after it suffered cracks and started leaking fuel and taking on water, the navy said. (AP)

Zimbabwe Declares an Emergency

Government seeks international aid to combat health crisis

HARARE, ZIMBABWE | Zimbabwe declared a national emergency over a cholera epidemic and the collapse of its health care system, and state media reported Thursday the government is seeking more international help to pay for food and drugs to combat the crisis.

The failure of Zimbabwe's health



People line up at a bank to receive cash in Harare, Zimbabwe, on Thursday.

care system is one of the most devastating effects of the country's economic collapse.

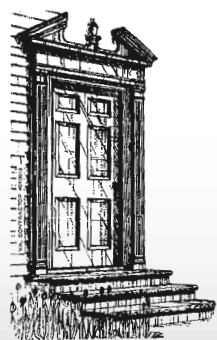
Facing the highest inflation in the world, Zimbabweans are struggling just to eat and find clean drinking water. The United Nations says the number of suspected cholera cases in Zimbabwe since August has climbed above 12,600, with 570 deaths, because of a lack of water treatment and broken sewage pipes.

"Our central hospitals are literally

not functioning," Minister of Health David Parirenyatwa said Wednesday at a meeting of government and international aid officials, the state-run Herald newspaper reported.

International aid agencies and donors must step up their response, Matthew Cochrane, the regional spokesman for the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, told The Associated Press on Thursday.

A new 100 million Zimbabwean dollar note went into circulation Thursday in an attempt to ease the cash crunch, sparking long lines at banks on Thursday. ANGUS SHAW (AP)



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World



An Indian paramilitary soldier stands guard at Bengaluru International Airport in Bangalore, India, on Thursday. Airports were on high alert across the country.

Indian Implicated In Terror Attacks

Investigators uncover new details in Mumbai plot; airports on alert

NEW DELHI | A Pakistani militant group apparently used an Indian operative as far back as 2007 to scout targets for the elaborate plot against India's financial capital, authorities said Thursday, a blow to Indian officials who have blamed the deadly attacks entirely on Pakistani extremists.

As investigators sought to unravel the attack on Mumbai, stepping up questioning of the lone captured gunman, airports across India were put on high alert amid fresh warnings that terrorists planned to hijack an aircraft.

Security forces swarmed New Delhi's international airport early Friday after the sound of gunfire was heard, police said, but no one was injured or killed. Police said it

was not a terrorist incident.

On Thursday, police said there were signs that some of the six victims of the attack on a Jewish center may have been tortured. "The victims were strangled," said Rakesh Maria, a senior Mumbai police official. "There were injuries noticed on the bodies that were not from firing."

Members of an Israeli rescue group that had a team in Mumbai said it was impossible to tell whether the bodies had been abused, however, because no autopsies were conducted in accordance with Jewish tradition.

The surviving gunman, Ajmal Amir Kasab, 21, told interrogators he had been sent by the banned Pakistani militant group Lashkar-e-Taiba and identified two of the plot's masterminds, according to two Indian government officials familiar with the inquiry.

SAM DOLNICK (AP)




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KEEPING IT REAL: Embarrassed by a child who lip-synched at the Beijing Olympics' opening ceremony, Chinese authorities are ordering performers not to fake it on the country's biggest TV show of the year, "CCTV Spring Festival Gala," which airs on the eve of Chinese New Year. "Choose performers with real singing ability," said a notice Wednesday on the Web site of the State Administration of Radio, Film and Television. (AP)



VIEWING DECK: Newseum officials approved plans Thursday to open the museum from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Inauguration Day. Several balconies inside the building have prime views of Pennsylvania Avenue.

Local

WASHINGTON | CAPITOL HILL PREPARES FOR JAN. 20



ALEX KWONG/GETTY IMAGES

FRESH COAT: A worker applies primer to a pillar at the construction site of the inaugural stand on the west side of the Capitol Thursday. Preparations for the inauguration of President-elect Barack Obama are under way.

Montgomery Teachers Forgo Raises

Montgomery County teachers and other school employees have agreed to give up a 5 percent pay raise next year, a concession that saves the school system \$89 million and allows Superintendent Jerry D. Weast to balance the budget.

Leaders of four employee associations, representing more than

22,000 workers, agreed Tuesday to forgo the raise all workers would have received in the fiscal year that begins in July.

School board President Nancy Navarro credited unions with "tremendous sacrifice during these tough times."

DANIEL DE VISE AND ANN E. MARIMOW (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Kaine: No Thanks, Cabinet

Va. gov. says he would not leave office to be education secretary

RICHMOND, VA. | Gov. Timothy M. Kaine said Thursday he won't leave office early to take a possible appointment as President-elect Barack Obama's secretary of education.

In his monthly radio call-in show on Richmond's WRVA and the Virginia News Network, Kaine restated his intent to remain in Virginia through the end of his term in January 2010.

News reports Thursday listed Kaine among potential appointees.

"I saw that in the news Thursday morning, and it was news to

me," Kaine said. "I've never heard myself mentioned for education secretary."

Others in the mix include Chicago schools chief Arne Duncan, Kansas Gov. Kathleen Sebelius, former Georgia governor Roy Barnes, Stanford University education professor Linda Darling-Hammond and former secretary of state Colin Powell.



Kaine

Kaine said he would have left early had Obama asked him to be his vice presidential running mate.

"I was considered for VP and met with Barack Obama over the summer and key people who were doing

the vetting," he said. "I was a long shot on a long list, and then over the course of two months I became a long shot on a very short list."

"If I got tapped for VP, I think the Virginia voters would understand me leaving under that circumstance, but it would not be right to do it for a Cabinet position," Kaine said.

Kaine, a former Richmond mayor, still owns a house in the city and said he would like to return to it after his term, but said he would be amenable to some presidential appointment when he leaves office in January 2010.

A federal judiciary post or an ambassadorship are among the possibilities that could be open to Kaine, a former civil rights attorney in private practice. BOB LEWIS (AP)

The Lotteries

Thursday, Dec. 4

DISTRICT

Mid-day Lucky Numbers	0-4-4
Evening Lucky Numbers (Wed.)	3-9-9
Mid-day DC 4	2-6-4-6
Evening DC 4 (Wed.)	3-2-6-8
Rolling Cash Five (Wed.)	22-25-28-32-34
Daily 6 (Wed.)	4-5-8-14-19-26 Bonus: 23
Hot Lotto (Wed.)	15-17-22-25 (38)

MARYLAND

Mid-day Pick 3	4-6-9
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	3-7-5
Mid-day Pick 4	2-8-8-2
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	4-4-1-0
Match 5 (Wed.)	6-12-13-19-23 Bonus: 3
Lotto (Wed.)	6-9-12-18-34-41

VIRGINIA

Mid-day Pick 3 (Thurs.)	7-2-1
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	8-0-9
Mid-day Pick 4 (Thurs.)	1-5-4-2

Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	7-6-3-3
Mid-day Cash 5 (Thurs.)	2-12-15-20-28
Evening Cash 5 (Wed.)	7-8-29-32-33
Win for Life (Wed.)	4-5-16-23-34-38

MULTI-STATE GAMES

Powerball (Wed.)	16-17-21-25-55 (3)
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Money



CATFIGHT: Pouty-lipped Bratz will stay on store shelves until after the holidays, but their fate after that was uncertain Thursday after a federal court banned MGA from making the saucy Barbie alternative. MGA and Mattel have been sparring for years over Bratz copyrights.

Chevy Chase Bank Accepts Buyout

Capitol One to acquire Washington-area bank in \$520 million deal

NEW YORK | Capital One Financial Corp. said Thursday it will acquire Chevy Chase Bank for \$520 million in cash and stock as it continues to bolster its deposit base to help fund operations amid the credit crisis.

Fresh off receiving \$3.56 billion in funds as part of the government's bank investment program and raising more than \$700 million through a stock offering, McLean, Va.-based Capital One will use \$445 million in cash and 2.56 million shares of Capital One valued at \$75 million to acquire privately held Chevy Chase Bank.

Chevy Chase Bank, which has about \$11 billion in deposits, oper-



A pedestrian passes a Chevy Chase Bank Thursday in Silver Spring, Md. The bank has \$11 billion in total deposits at its Maryland, Virginia and Washington branches.

ates branches in Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C.

Rumors about a possible buyer for Chevy Chase had been circulating for several weeks. Citigroup Inc. was among the bidders reportedly looking to acquire the bank.

Bethesda, Md.-based Chevy Chase Bank is the latest in a string of regional banks Capital One has purchased in recent years as it expands to become a full-service bank after primarily operating as a credit card lender.

"Deposits are really the only source of stable funding in the [current] market, aside from government programs," said Scott Valentin, an analyst with Friedman, Billings, Ramsey & Co. The deal moves it closer to a funding model of traditional banks, Valentin said.

STEPHEN BERNARD (AP)

AT&T to Lay Off 12,000 Workers By End of 2009

NEW YORK | Pressured by the economic turmoil and the mounting loss of traditional phone customers, AT&T Inc. is cutting 12,000 jobs, about 4 percent of its work force.

The Dallas-based telecommunications company, the nation's largest, said the job cuts will begin this month and run throughout 2009. The company also plans to lower its capital spending next year, and one analyst estimates that reduction could be as much as \$2 billion.

The new cuts were part of a parade of layoffs tied to the recession. In addition Thursday, chemicals company DuPont announced plans to lose 2,500 jobs, Credit Suisse Group slashed 5,300 and media conglomerate Viacom Inc. jettisoned 850. (AP)

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No one should go hungry during the Christmas season — especially when it costs so little to serve a complete meal to a hungry and homeless person.

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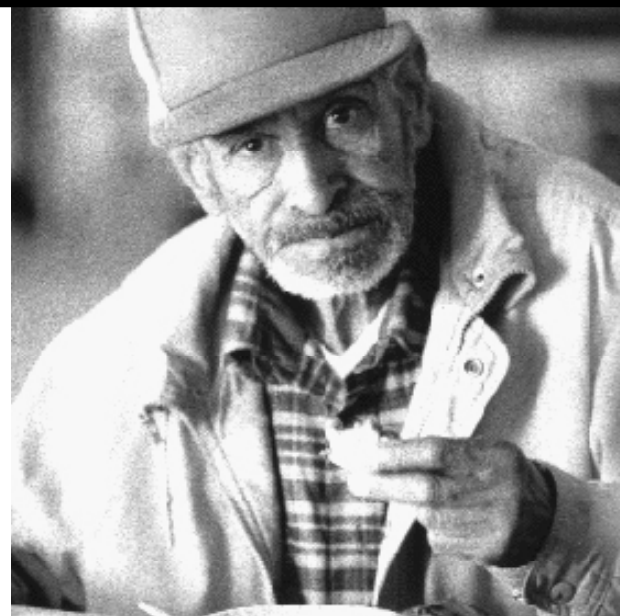
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Sunday in The Washington Post

5 more reasons to read

THESE STORIES AND MORE THIS SUNDAY



→ Chill Out

Iceland's currency has fallen by more than 50 percent in recent months. The country's troubles make for an appealing low-cost getaway. **TRAVEL**

→ Starry Night



Barbra Streisand joins Morgan Freeman, Pete Townshend, Roger Daltrey, George Jones and Twila

Tharp at Sunday's gala at the Kennedy Center. **STYLE & ARTS**

→ The Year's Best

The top 10 books of the year, plus a compendium of notable fiction and non-fiction, and Jonathan Yardley's favorites. **BOOK WORLD**



→ Great Awakening

Larry Ford was a successful financial planner, but he couldn't shake the emptiness inside. Now he straddles two worlds: finance and spiritual healing. **THE MAGAZINE**

→ Beating the Odds

A man who overcame Tourette's syndrome to become teacher of the year is the subject of a Hallmark movie, "Front of the Class." **TV WEEK**



PROHIBITION SCENE: New York City Deputy Police Commissioner John Leach watches agents pour liquor into a sewer in 1921.

Secretly Sauced

Alcohol was illegal, but D.C. was hardly dry during Prohibition

IN SUNDAY SOURCE | At the exact time Prohibition was repealed, Franklin D. Roosevelt was taking a swim in the White House's indoor pool. The president was wet. Now the country was wet. That night, 75 years ago this weekend, a truckload of Yuengling beer trundled up the driveway of the executive mansion and, for the first time in 16 years, the commander in chief could chug a cold one in the open.

Only not really. The District had to wait three more months to drink legally. Congress didn't know whether the state's ratification of

the 21st Amendment applied to the voteless capital.

Upon the repeal on Dec. 5, 1933, Washingtonians rushed to Bethesda and Silver Spring (Maryland was dubbed the "Free State" because it never passed a Prohibition enforcement act), and Montgomery County drank itself dry within a day. Prince George's County started selling alcohol several days later. Virginia had ratified the amendment in October 1933 but remained dry while its politicians whipped up plans for the state to profit from the wholesale of liquor.

None of this really mattered. In fact, Washingtonians started drinking *more* during Prohibition. In 1929, the District was a "Sodom of suds," in the words of an outraged

bureaucrat. That year, one in 27 D.C. residents was arrested for an alcohol-related violation, and 18 percent more people were treated for alcoholism than in 1916-17.

Washingtonians craved Maryland rye. Whiskey from Virginia was smuggled into the city, funneled into flasks and strapped to thighs for easy access. Unlike the violent turf wars in New York and Chicago, bootlegging in the District was conducted with "silly politeness" that reflected "the suave atmosphere of the city," the Washington Daily News reported.

It was a 16-year farce. Many members of Congress were politically dry and personally wet. They'd retire to their offices for a few pulls of bourbon after voting for Prohi-

bitionist bills.

Citizens weren't so sneaky. Washington was "America's greatest home-drinking city," according to writer Eugene Thackrey. Speakeasies thrived not in the back rooms of saloons but in the parlors of the people, who brewed gin in their bathtubs and beer in their basements. Washington resident John Gill, 11 years old at the time of repeal and 86 now, grew up on P Street NW in Georgetown and remembers his

for more ...

IN SUNDAY SOURCE

Check out Sunday's Post to read **Dan Zak's full account of the Prohibition era in Washington and its lingering influence on American society.**

IN The Washington Post

father's bootlegger stopping by the house in broad daylight to deliver scotch and Canadian whiskey.

"One time my father and I were going up to the courthouse in Warrenton, and a guy was selling bootleg liquor on the courthouse steps," says Gill, vice president of the Association of the Oldest Inhabitants of the District of Columbia. "It was flowing then. It was sort of a game. I would hear people talking about it all the time, about where to get it, about which stuff was really good. It was very much on their minds."

Then Gill recalls his neighbor, who went blind from bad liquor. That brings up the bad stuff: 45,500 people died nationwide from drinking toxic bootlegged alcohol. Hundreds were killed at the hands of police officers during raids or stings. Revenue losses and enforcement costs totaled \$12 billion, which, adjusted for inflation, would be akin to more than \$200 billion today. Referred to as a "noble experiment" by its supporters, Prohibition was, by the numbers, a fiasco.

Seventy-five years ago this weekend, people were talking not about the "evils of liquor," as temperance boosters would say, but about liberty. Welfare reformer Jane Addams lauded the end of a law spawned by "national self-righteousness." Roosevelt hailed the repeal of the 18th Amendment as "the return of individual freedom."

DAN ZAK (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Weekend ^{Sports}

TERPS MEN'S HOOPS

Classic calls: Maryland tries to atone for last week's blowout loss to Georgetown at the BB&T Classic against George Washington | 17



Swengali

AWARDS | BY MATT SWENSON

Ovechkin Makes 2008 His Year

JUST AS SPORTS ILLUSTRATED had an obvious choice in Michael Phelps as its sportsman of the year, any D.C.-area sportswriter has but one true option for the local equivalent.

Combine a scoring champion, league MVP and dynamic personality and you get the area's brightest star, Alex Ovechkin.

Already a superstar, Ovechkin has lived up to his promise as one of hockey's all-time greats in 2008 in leading the Capitals from last place to the postseason.

The numbers are gaudy: 65 goals and 47 assists last season and an NHL-best 25 points this past November. On a fan level, there is no one you'd rather see play,

Ovechkin has lived up to his promise as one of hockey's ... greats in 2008.

Clinton Portis runs a distant second for his best year in Washington. He took a leadership role after Sean Taylor's death in 2007 and helped the Redskins make an improbable push to the playoffs.

He's followed that up with a gutsy season in which he's the NFL's second leading rusher while battling several nagging injuries. All that's missing is a bad back for carrying the Redskins the first half of the year.

As impressive as Portis has been, though, he's still not in the same league as Ovechkin, who was the first local athlete to win an MVP award since Joe Theismann did in 1983.

That's not to be overlooked — and the best part is that he's going to be here for a lot longer.

The Young & the Restless



Flacco's success has frustrated Redskins fans feeling envious

REDSKINS | For the first time since the days of Johnny Unitas in the 1950s, Washington fans are looking up the parkway to Baltimore and experiencing an odd emotion: quarterback envy.

Two signal callers — drafted in similar first-round positions four years apart — will take the field Sunday night hoping to nudge their respective teams one game closer to a wild card berth. But beyond that, Joe Flacco and Jason Campbell's circumstances couldn't be more different.

Baltimore's Flacco is living a rookie quarterback's dream, getting on-field experience while generating just enough offense to help the Ravens' defense pile up victories.

Washington's Campbell, however, is trying to right his team after a 1-3 November while also trying to live up to personal expectations fans set for him after his strong start to the season. "Last month was a tough month for us offensively, so, ... of course I'm going to get a lot of the blame," Campbell said. "I accept the challenge."

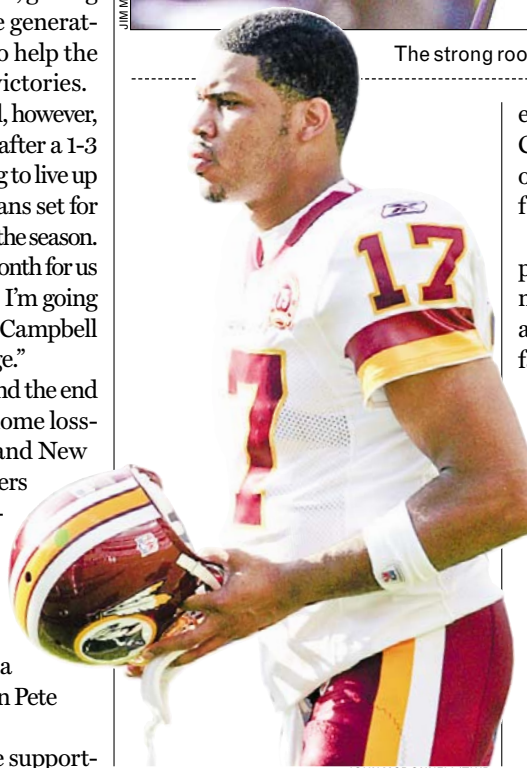
The Redskins (7-5) found the end zone just twice in three home losses to Pittsburgh, Dallas and New York. While plenty of fingers can be pointed, Washington's red zone results have left the offense stymied for an explanation.

"Obviously, if I had the answer, there wouldn't be a problem," offensive lineman Pete Kendall quipped.

Both quarterbacks are support-



The strong rookie season of Flacco, above, has some asking whether he's better than Campbell.



ed by a strong running game, but Campbell is a captain and the leader of the Redskins' version of the pass-first West Coast offense.

Campbell has thrown 44 more passes than Flacco, has nearly 300 more passing yards and has posted a career-best 87.8 passer rating so far to Flacco's 82.3.

But the most telling stat — and the difference between which one, if either, gets to the playoffs — is probably touchdowns. Campbell's

offense has scored 20 times, while the Flacco-led Ravens (8-4) have scored 28 offensive touchdowns.

Flacco's ability to hand the NFL's No. 2 defense two touchdowns a game to protect can't be overstated. "[Flacco] should feel good, knowing that they're leaning on their defense, also," cornerback Carlos Rogers said. "I think his only job is trying to move the ball and not make mistakes. ... And he's been successful at that." **ERIC BRANDNER**

LOCAL RIVALRY: While Sunday's game may be a big deal for fans, the Redskins are thinking more about the playoffs than local bragging rights.

→ "It's a great backyard type of game," Redskins linebacker London Fletcher said. "We don't play them that often ... so I don't know if you can call it a rivalry, so to speak, but it's an important game." Added Redskins center and former Raven Casey Rabach: "With how close we are to Baltimore, it would be nice to see some Redskins fans up there." **E.B.**

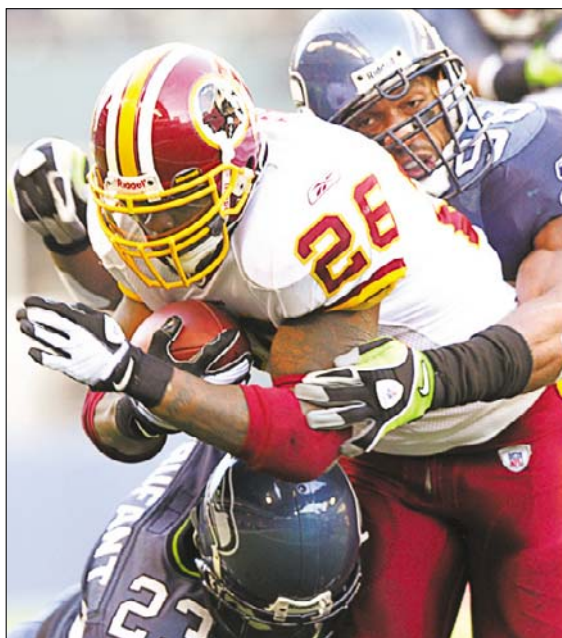
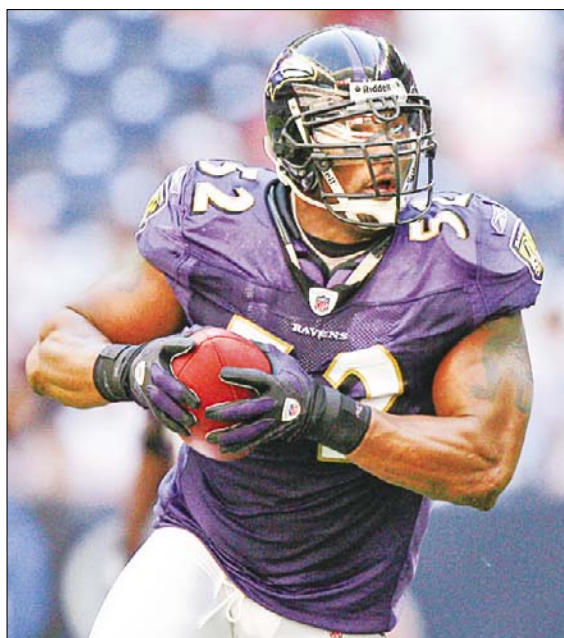
NFL | Don't get him angry: The top of St. Louis Rams safety Oshiomogho Atogwe's locker stall is crammed with action figures of the Incredible Hulk. There are more at home, too — between 2,000 and 3,000 more in his collection. The ball-hawking safety, who leads the Rams (2-10)



in interceptions and forced fumbles, has been following the big green superhero in the comics, and lately the movies, since he was 8. "So, I just put a bunch of them in my locker," he said. "It's kind of synonymous with the way I play the game, kind of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." **(AP)**



To reach Matt Swenson, e-mail matt.swenson@readexpress.com



Two former University of Miami superstars, Ray Lewis and Clinton Portis, square off when the Redskins visit the Ravens Sunday.

What to Watch For

Battered Portis tries to beat the league's No. 2-ranked defense

THE REDSKINS HAVE THE BALL

RB Clinton Portis Vs. LB Ray Lewis

Clinton Portis has been the backbone of Washington's offense, owning the second-highest rushing total in the NFL. But the running back has been plagued by soreness, and he suffered his worst performance

of the year and a neck injury against the Giants last week. And it will be tough for Portis to bounce back against Ray Lewis, who leads Baltimore's stout defense, which ranks second overall and against the rush, especially since Lewis should be inspired by his team-high seven tackles last week.

THE RAVENS HAVE THE BALL

WR Mark Clayton Vs. CB Shawn Springs

Shawn Springs has played in only half of the Redskins' 12 games this

season because of a calf injury. Though he started in the team's last two games and caught a victory-sealing interception two weeks ago against Seattle, the cornerback did not practice on Wednesday and is listed as questionable. Coach Jim Zorn has said he expects the veteran cornerback to play.

Baltimore's Mark Clayton proved that he can match up with a healthy Springs after he caught five passes for 164 yards last week — and threw his first career touchdown pass. KATE YANCHULIS

TV Lineup

friday

7 P.M. The Wizards go from losing to being one of the NBA's biggest names to playing a game against the league's top star when Kobe Bryant and the Lakers come to town. CSN

8 P.M. Though it may not move them closer to a BCS berth, undefeated No. 12 Ball State still wants a win in its first Mid-American Conference championship against Buffalo. ESPN2

saturday

Noon The 7-4 Navy Midshipmen will try to win the Commander in Chief's Trophy for the sixth straight year against 3-8 Army in Philadelphia. CBS

1 P.M. Georgetown's men's basketball team destroyed Maryland last week. What will it do vs. American? MASN

1 P.M. No. 18 Boston College and Virginia Tech meet in the ACC Championship for the second-straight season. ABC

4 P.M. No. 1 Alabama plays No. 2 Florida for the SEC championship and a spot in the BCS title game. CBS

7 P.M. The ailing Capitals visit the Toronto Maple Leafs. CBS

8 P.M. Against No. 19 Missouri, the defending Big 12 champion Oklahoma Sooners will try to avoid an upset and prove they belong in the conference title game and at No. 2 in the BCS rankings. CBS



Victor Harris and the Hokies will play for a second-straight ACC title Saturday.

sunday

1 P.M. The 6-5 Eagles face their division rivals, the NFC East-leading 11-1 New York Giants. FOX

4:15 P.M. The Dallas Cowboys look for their fourth-straight win when visiting the Pittsburgh Steelers. FOX

5 P.M. The Washington Capitals face the Carolina Hurricanes, who fired coach Peter Laviolette on Wednesday. CSN

7:30 P.M. Maryland's men's basketball team faces George Washington in the BB&T Classic. MASN

8 P.M. Watch the BCS Selection Show to find out which eight teams have won spots in BCS bowls and which will be playing in the national championship in Miami on Jan. 8. FOX

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The 19th Washington Jewish Film Festival: An Exhibition of International Cinema (Dec 4 - 14) is presented by the Washington DCJCC's Morris Cafritz Center for the Arts; co-sponsored by the Embassy of Israel and Washington Jewish Week; and supported in part by grants from the United Jewish Endowment Fund and the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities.

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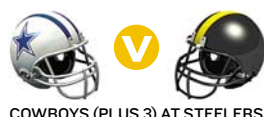
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**Sunday
PICK'EM****Matt Swenson**
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EXPRESS**Ian Herbert**
SPORTS CONTRIBUTOR,
EXPRESS**Dan Steinberg**
D.C. SPORTS BOG,
THE WASHINGTON POST**Dave Goldberg**
SPORTS WRITER,
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RAVENS
The Ravens can't beat good teams, but do the Redskins fit in that category?



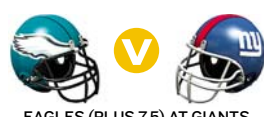
STEELERS
Marion Barber is going to be hurting even more after playing that defense.



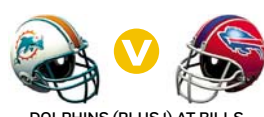
BUCS
Since going back to Jeff Garcia, Tampa has looked really good.



FALCONS
Matt Ryan and Michael Turner have been miracle workers in Atlanta.



GIANTS
I'm not going to shoot myself in the thigh by picking against the Giants.



DOLPHINS
Don't expect a "home" game in Toronto to heat up the lifeless Bills.

REDSKINS
The Ravens are the obvious pick, but I need to make up ground.

COWBOYS
It took long enough, but both teams are finally playing up to expectations.

PANTHERS
I thought both these teams were over the hill. I was wrong — again.

SAINTS
The NFC South insists on making itself as muddled as possible.

EAGLES
The Giants look like a 13-3 team, so I have to find two more losses.

BILLS
This isn't on a Canadian-size football field, right?

RAVENS
Moving the game to prime time was a death knell for the Redskins.

STEELERS
The Steelers are dirtier than the Anacostia, but also quite good.

BUCS
NFC South might be dominant, but I still don't care about this game.

FALCONS
NFC South might be dominant, but ... What's that? Another game?

EAGLES
The Giants are rapidly swerving toward the realm of the over-rated.

BILLS
Seriously, when was the last time Tony Soprano won in Canada?

RAVENS
No line due to Portis' health. In any case, the Redskins won't move the ball much.

STEELERS
The destruction of New England establishes the Steelers as the AFC's best team.

PANTHERS
The winner takes over first place in the NFC South.

FALCONS
Atlanta has more incentive, which at this time of year is important.

GIANTS
They're also adept at turning negatives like the Plaxico mess into motivation.

DOLPHINS
If the Dolphins win their final four, they'll win the AFC East.

SEASON TALLY: Matt Swenson: 38-31-3 (4-2); Ian Herbert: 24-55-3 (1-5); Dan Steinberg: 42-27-3 (5-1); Dave Goldberg: 38-31-3 (5-1)
All picks are against the spread. Get more NFL coverage and chime in with comments on the Sports Bog at Blog.washingtonpost.com/dcsportsbog.

**BCS Picture May
Come Into Focus**

Shot at national title casts a shadow over league championships

COLLEGE PICKS | This has to be the best week in the history of Cincinnati Bearcats football.

The Bearcats have the Big East title and a BCS bid locked up, and they're headed to Hawaii to play what amounts to a meaningless game Saturday night. While the Bearcats are frolicking in paradise, the rest of the Bowl Championship Series will be sorted out on the mainland.

As long as the favorites win, it'll all come together nicely and neatly for Selection Sunday. The picks:

→ **NO. 1 ALABAMA** (PLUS 9.5) VS. **NO. 2 FLORIDA**, SEC CHAMPIONSHIP AT ATLANTA. The Gators chomp on the Tide's perfect season ... **FLORIDA, 41-17**.

→ **NO. 4 OKLAHOMA** (MINUS 16) VS. **NO. 19 MISSOURI**, BIG 12 CHAMPIONSHIP AT KANSAS CITY. The Sooners hit 60 again ... **OKLAHOMA, 63-35**.



Alabama, ranked No. 1, is an underdog vs. No. 2 Florida in the SEC title game.

→ **NO. 5 USC** (MINUS 33) at **UCLA**. The over/under on the Bruins' first downs: 7 ... **USC, 42-7**.

→ **NO. 18 BOSTON COLLEGE** (EVEN) VS. **VIRGINIA TECH**. The rematch of last season's title game goes the Eagles' way this time ... **BC, 24-21**.

→ **NAVY** (MINUS 10.5) VS. **ARMY**, AT PHILADELPHIA. The Middies go for seven straight against the Cadets ... **NAVY, 30-21**.

RALPH D. RUSSO (AP)

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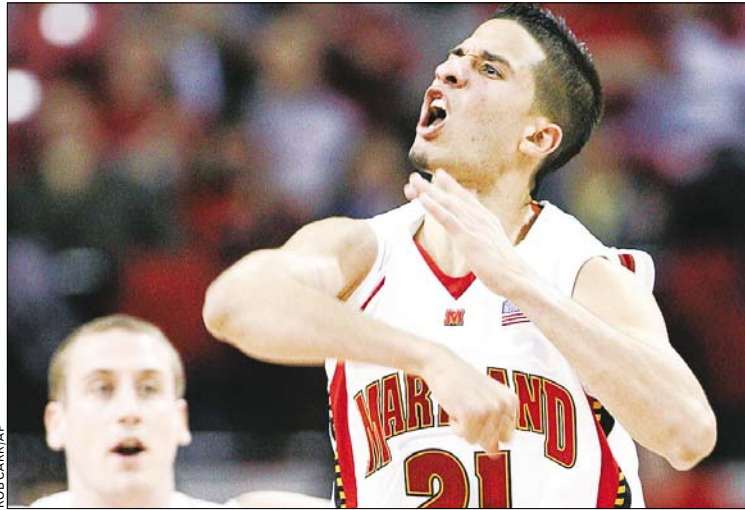
UMd. seeks a chance to save some face vs. GW in BB&T Classic

TERPS MEN'S HOOPS | His Terrapins had just completed a bounce-back victory over Michigan on Wednesday when coach Gary Williams interrupted his post-game radio interview to address the crowd directly.

He reminded them that, after a loss to Georgetown last Sunday, Maryland would get a shot at another local team this Sunday: George Washington in the BB&T Classic.

"We'll be ready," he told the lingering fans. "Stay with us. We're a work in progress. Stay with us."

He also reminded the crowd that, although the Terrapins (5-2) had been beaten soundly by No. 9 Gonzaga and No. 21 Georgetown over the weekend, they defeated No. 5 Michigan State last Thursday. That's three games against ranked teams in four days, two in the Top 10. "Nobody in the country has played



Maryland returned to the win column with a 75-70 victory over Michigan Wednesday.

our schedule," Williams said.

The matchup with the Colonials is an opportunity for the Terrapins to save a little face. George Washington is coming off a poor season last year, and coach Karl Hobbs has said it is a rebuilding time. The Colonials are 3-1 but have not been overly impressive, needing overtime to beat Boston University and squeaking out a narrow victory

over UMBC.

"Especially after the way we came out against Georgetown, we want to come back and show people around here that we're one of the best teams in the area," Maryland senior Dave Neal said after Wednesday's 75-70 win over Michigan. "I've just got to emphasize to everybody that BB&T is a big game."

DEREK TURNER

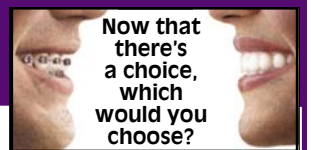
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Metro Notes



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Happy holidays! There are a number of initiatives in the works for January. On January 4, Metro will no longer accept paper transfers on its buses. However, transfers will be available

using the SmarTrip card. Also starting January 4, SmarTrip owners will receive a 50-cent discount when transferring from bus to rail and from rail to bus.

Looking further into January, is Inauguration Weekend. Huge crowds are expected for the Inauguration and for the three-days leading up to it. To help get people to and from the events, on Inauguration Day, Metrorail will be running rush hour service from 4 a.m. to 7 p.m. Expect very crowded conditions all day and waits of an hour or more to get into stations after the Inauguration and parade.

For security reasons, the Archives-Navy Memorial/Penn Quarter Metrorail station will be closed on Inauguration Day, as will the Mall entrance to the Smithsonian station. The Independence Ave entrance will remain open. All Metrorail station restrooms will also be closed for security.

We have designed special commemorative farecards, One Day Passes and SmarTrip cards with the President-Elect's picture on them. You should be able to buy the farecards in vending machines later this month and the SmarTrip cards in early January.

You can get the latest news on Metro service for the Inauguration at <http://www.wmata.com/inauguration> and you can sign up for special Inauguration e-alerts that will keep you informed prior to and the weekend of the Inauguration.

John Catoe
Metro General Manager

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GOLDEN TRIANGLE

More Misses Than Hits

Wizards shooting just 44.8 percent going into Friday game vs. Lakers

WIZARDS | One leather ball going through one orange hoop.

Pull that off 50 percent of the time at the highest level, and you'll be a millionaire.

But for all the 20-footers they may drain in warm-ups (and at the NBA level, few players throw up a slew of bricks during drills) the Wizards (3-13) — who are shooting 44.8 percent, 17th-best in the NBA — have not been able to get those shots consistently during games.

So, what do you do when your millionaires can't buy a bucket? Wizards coach Ed Tapscott has chosen to take a deep breath and reassure them their strokes will come back.

"Shooting is one of those things that comes and goes," said Tapscott, who took the reins from Eddie Jordan last week. "[Once you make a shot] all [of a] sudden, that rim gets a little bigger."

Case in point is DeShawn Stevenson.

The Wizards' starting shooting guard — who is known for his defense — had a career year last season from beyond the arc, hitting 158 3-pointers (38.3 percent).



Kobe Bryant and the Lakers make their annual visit to D.C. on Friday night.

“Shooting is one of those things that comes and goes.”

ED TAPSCOTT, WIZARDS COACH

Through 16 games this season, Stevenson has hit just 23 of 77 3's this season.

While the team shot 51.8 percent from the floor and 54.2 percent from the 3-point line in Tuesday's win against New Jersey, Tapscott said he was most

impressed with the way Stevenson and point guard Dee Brown set the team up for success with good ball movement.

"If the ball moves and we move, then our offense will run much more efficiently," Tapscott said.

They'll need some more of that movement Friday when Kobe Bryant and the Lakers (15-2) make their annual visit to Washington.

Los Angeles has won that game each of the last two seasons in Washington.

"We get the same effort and energy on a consistent basis," forward Caron Butler said. "Even if shots aren't falling, the energy must still be there." ERIC BRANDNER

Home court? The Lakers will likely have many fans' support on Friday in D.C. | washingtonpost.com/sports

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**HIP-HOP**

Genre Queen: Jean Grae, one of the best female players in the rap game, performs at the Black Cat on Saturday night. | 16

Entertainment Weekend



NO METHOD HERE: Beyoncé stars as Etta James in "Cadillac Records" but is unable to fully immerse herself in the character.

At Record Speed

A music biopic dashes through the lives of Chess label greats

FILM | Darnell Martin could have made an entire movie about Muddy Waters. Or Etta James. Or Chuck Berry.

Instead, the writer-director has made a movie about all of them with "Cadillac Records," cram-

ming their complicated individual stories into the larger saga of Chicago-based Chess Records, the label that launched those stars and so many others during the 1950s and '60s.

The result feels even more cursory and rushed than the average music biopic, a genre that's already difficult to depict without lapsing into self-parody. (Jake Kasdan, Judd Apatow and co. had long known that

when they made "Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story.")

It's all here, over and over, just as you've seen it countless times before: the early struggle, the rise to the top (accompanied by the obligatory montage of press clippings and positions on the Billboard chart), the waste of fame and talent with various controlled substances. Certainly, there must be a better, fresher way to tell this familiar tale.

Despite the glimmers of potential for typically strong work from Jeffrey Wright as Waters, Mos Def as Berry and Adrien Brody as the label's founder, Polish emigre Leonard Chess, Martin too often gives them too little substance with which to work. She also shows us the racism of the time — which Chess earnestly, persistently tries to break through by bringing blues and R&B to a mass audience — with facile platitudes and hand-holding voiceovers provided by Cedric the Entertainer.

Columbus Short gets some amusing moments as volatile harmonica player Little Walter, but Gabrielle Union gets too little to do as Waters' initially supportive but ultimately put-upon wife (yet another cliché in this type of movie, for those of you keeping score at home).

And Beyoncé Knowles doesn't seem to have splurged on acting lessons since her wooden turn in "Dreamgirls." From the second she enters the film as the tempestuous James, you want to see her sing "At Last," and then get out. No amount of wigs and padding can transform her.

The music itself is the most reliable star of all; Knowles does knock it out of the park a couple times, particularly on James' signature song, and Mos Def is insanely charismatic as Berry, though he doesn't appear in the film nearly as much as the ads would lead you to believe — and when he's gone, you want him to come back. **CHRISTY LEMIRE (AP)**



FOR COMPLETE WEEKEND LISTINGS SEE WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT

Hopefully, I'm not too late for a question to David. Loretta Lynn, this Saturday, 9:30 Club, tickets are \$55. Worth it? She is 74.

If you want to be able to say, "I saw Loretta Lynn!," then, yes. If not, it's debatable. Not every show is guaranteed to be a winner, but you will be in the presence of greatness. It's hard for me to tell anyone to pay \$55 for a concert ticket, just based on principle.

→ 9:30 Club, 815 V St. NW; Sat., Dec. 6, 6 p.m., \$55; 202-265-0930. (U St.-Cardozo)



Is it worth paying \$55 to see the iconic Loretta Lynn? Only the show will tell.

Are any other celebrations of Repeal Day scheduled for tonight besides the D.C. Craft Bartender's Guild event?

Indebledu will have some special cocktails for the night, as will PX. Probably my favorite event, though, is free Dewers at Metropolitan from 10 p.m. until it runs out, with DJ Meistro at the controls.

→ Indebledu, 707 G St. NW; 202-333-2538. (Gallery Place)

→ PX, 728 King St., Alexandria; 703-299-8384.

→ Metropolitan Lounge at Napoleon, 1847 Columbia Road NW; 202-299-9630. (Woodley Park)

The Going Out Gurus think you should get out more. Join the discussion Thursdays at 1 p.m. | washingtonpost.com/gog

Holy Wallet Drain, Batman!

'The Dark Knight' will cost you at home just like it did in theaters

DVD | Plenty of fans shelled out more than once to see "The Dark Knight" in theaters multiple times. They might wind up doing the same on home video, given how the studio is skimping with the extras on the initial DVD and Blu-ray releases.

The overseers at Warner Bros. clearly sense that after everyone

pays up to get their own copy of the movie, many will fork over more cash down the line for whatever extras-loaded special editions that inevitably follow. Fans probably will consider it a bargain just to get their hands on the year's biggest blockbuster, which elevated the superhero genre to new critical and commercial highs as Batman (Christian Bale) battles his inner demons and the sadistic schemes of his greatest foe, the Joker (Heath Ledger).

The two-disc DVD and Blu-ray



Look at all his Joker-y glory. If only "The Dark Knight" DVD had more Ledger.

releases have a behind-the-scenes segment, episodes of the "Gotham Tonight" news show featured in the movie and a digital copy of the film for portable video players. The Blu-ray also has a featurette on Batman's gadgets and a psychological study of the conflicted hero. A single-disc DVD version comes with just the movie. At some point, Warner is bound to unleash other versions that flesh out the behind-the-scenes materials. **DAVID GERMAIN (AP)**

Weekend Entertainment

Nightlife Agenda

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO TONIGHT? BY FRITZ HAHN, RHOME ANDERSON AND DAVID MALITZ

FRIDAY

Seventy-five years ago today, the great state of Utah ratified the 21st Amendment to the Constitution, officially ending Prohibition. To celebrate this momentous anniversary, some of the area's top mixologists, including Derek Brown (the Gibson), Owen Thompson (Bourbon) and Gina Chersevani (EatBar) are mixing up vintage cocktails at a Repeal Day Ball at the historic **CITY TAVERN CLUB**, alongside guests

such as Tony Abou-Ganim of the Fine Living Network's "Raising the Bar." This is a classy affair, from the top-shelf liquor — Millers gin, Willett rye whiskey and bourbon, etc. — to a jazz band playing hits of the 1930s. Tickets are a little pricey at \$90, but that includes all drinks, food and entertainment. Doors open at 8 p.m., and the party goes until midnight, with an afterparty at a top-secret area lounge to follow.

SATURDAY

The hip-hop biz doesn't really have a glass ceiling when it comes to female artists — it's more like a sledgehammer of patriarchy. If you're not showing skin or serving as an arm piece for an established rapper, life is hard. Name the best female MCs you know, and if Jean Grae isn't on



THE GAME NEEDS HER: Thankfully, Jean Grae still plays. See her at the Black Cat.

that list, then you're probably still saying nightly prayers for Lauryn Hill to return. Jean almost joined her, only recently backing away from Internet pronouncements of

retirement. But with Jay-Z's words echoing in her head ("I can't leave rap alone; the game needs me") she's back. Along with DJ Mr. Len, she's heading up a bill at the **BLACK CAT**

on a night that also features D.C.'s own DJ Underdog.

SUNDAY

David vividly remembers seeing Radar Bros. almost nine years ago. It was a cold, early December night, and the Radar Bros. album "The Singing Hatchet" had been on repeat for many months. Apparently, he (and, well, the friend he dragged along) was the only one. The two of them got a private show from the Radar Bros. that night at the Metro Cafe. It'll be another cold, windy Sunday night in December for this show, but, hopefully, David won't be on his own at the **BLACK CAT**'s backstage.

Check out an extended version of "Nightlife Agenda" each Thursday at washingtonpost.com/gog

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AUSTRALIA (PG-13, 155 minutes) A wildly ambitious, luridly indulgent spectacle of romance, action, melodrama and historic revisionism, the film is windy, overblown, utterly preposterous and insanely entertaining. Lady Sarah Ashley (Nicole Kidman) is being driven across Faraway Downs by a mysterious, cynical cattle hand simply named the Drover (Hugh

Jackman). Director Baz Luhrmann reserves the right to find fault, especially in the government's historic oppression of Australia's indigenous people in what is the film's most ambitious aim of all: to lay bare and heal his country's deepest primal wound. (AH)

BOLT (PG, 95 minutes) As sprightly and determined as its fuzzy, yappy lead, this new Disney animated film works hard to be all things to all people, with mixed results. The story of Bolt, a TV-star pooch (voiced by John Travolta) who's accidentally mailed from Los Angeles to New York, the movie follows our hero (plus a cat and a daft hamster) across America in search of his owner and co-star, Penny



UNSUNG HERO: Sean Penn, left, stars as gay rights activist Harvey Milk in "Milk."

(Miley Cyrus). **DAN KOIS**

CHANGELING (R, 140 minutes) Angelina Jolie's star is apparently so incandescent that it blinded Clint Eastwood to the story mechanics that have made his films so sound. It is 1928, and Jolie's character, Christine Collins, is a Pacific Telephone & Telegraph employee in Los Angeles. One day, she finds that her young son, Walter (Gattlin Griffith), is gone. Months later, the kid is returned to Collins. Case closed. Public happy. Except that the boy isn't her son. And for insisting that this is so, Collins is committed to an insane asylum. (JA)

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utes) There's a good movie buried here, underneath the layers of baloney and ham, but we never get much of a taste. Reese Witherspoon and Vince Vaughn play San Francisco lovebirds who avoid Christmas with their divorced parents by planning vacations disguised as volunteer expeditions. But this year, a thick fog grounds all the flights. Before Christmas Day is over, the pair have to make four stops, one for each divorced parent. Unfortunately, the actors are

nothing but fancy window dressings in this movie, which rushes from scene to scene before bad gags have time to land their bad punch lines. (DZ)

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (PG, 89 minutes) Visually captivating, this sequel to the 2005 hit about zoo animals on the lam suffers from a plethora of subplots and suggestive humor aimed at viewers in the upper range of its PG-rated demographic. This is, after all, a movie that opens with a shamelessly crowd-pleasing shot of four boogieing animal tushies. Those ample posteriors belong to Alex the lion (Ben Stiller), Marty the zebra (Chris Rock), Melman the giraffe (David Schwimmer) and Gloria the hippo (Jada

Pinkett Smith), who are on their way home to the Central Park Zoo when their plane crashes into the African veld. (AH)

MILK (R, 128 minutes) Gus Van Sant has painted a vivid, affecting portrait of Harvey Milk, who in 1978 joined the San Francisco Board of Supervisors as the first openly gay man to be elected to American public office in the United States. Sean Penn virtually disappears into his character, burying any trace of native mannerisms or accent and emerging as a wholly convincing New York Jewish boy made good. What makes the film extraordinary isn't just that it's a nuanced, stirring portrait of one of the 20th century's most pivotal figures, but that it's also a nuanced, stir-

ring portrait of the thousands of people he energized. (AH)

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG-13, 106 minutes) In his breakout 2006 performance as 007 in "Casino Royale," Daniel Craig proved an able successor to the man who defined the role, Sean Connery. In its sequel, all the dash and elan of that film has been leached out, leaving Bond little more than a serial killer with Bombay Sapphire eyes and a good tux. Gone are the lush locales, libidinous sex scenes and playful puns. Gone, indeed, is all the fun. Adding insult to injury, they justify the whole enterprise in a ludicrous environmental cautionary tale about corporate control of water. Thank heaven for Judi-

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Now Playing

Dench, whose M provides the film its sole quantum of peppery brio. (AH)

RACHEL GETTING MARRIED (R, 113 minutes) The bravura way director Jonathan Demme juggles the hurly-burly of an upscale wedding—made hurlier and burlier by the arrival, straight from rehab, of the title character's (Rosemarie DeWitt) high-maintenance sister Kym (Anne Hathaway, like you've never seen her)—harkens back to the darkness and emotional complexity of "The Silence of the Lambs" and the madcap energy of

"Something Wild." There's a dark secret, too, but its lurking presence never feels cheap or forced. (MO)

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R, 121 minutes) The resourceful, unerringly grounded title character is Jamal Malik Dev Patel), a lanky kid from the Mumbai slums who we meet just after he wins 10 million rupees on India's version of the "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" TV show. Accused of cheating, Jamal is taken into custody by the Mumbai police, and he proceeds to tell them his story, a tale of one boy's decidedly unsentimental education by way of poverty, tribal strife, abandonment, exploitation, criminal gangs and star-crossed love. Director Danny Boyle



Visiting family for truly stinks for Reese Witherspoon in "Four Christmases."

JOHN P. JOHNSON/WARNER BROS.

has clearly found inspiration in the geography and textures of modern-day India, though with its stock characters and often outlandishly contrived plot, the film could easily be relegated to the category of cinematic stunt. But even at its most superficial, this chai-fueled fable retains its appeal, largely because of Boyle's fluency with the medium he so obviously loves. (AH)

ZACK AND MIRI MAKE A PORN (R, 102 minutes) You'll look at this story of a bone-cold winter in Pittsburgh, where a schlub named Zack (Seth Rogen) has a lifelong babe of a friend and roommate named Miri (Elizabeth Banks), and wonder why this nice girl isn't somewhere

else. Times are hard, and the electricity gets cut off at home. So, Miri agrees to have sex on tape with Zack to gin up some cash. It won't take much to recognize that Rogen is reprising his standard role: a nonthreatening loser with a good heart. Despite the crude humor and standard plot, you will laugh out loud, perhaps because everyone on screen seems to be having so much fun. (NT)



REVIEWS BY THE WASHINGTON POST'S JOHN ANDERSON, ANN HORNBADY, MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN, NEELY TUCKER AND DAN ZACK. FOR MORE CAPSULES AND FULL REVIEWS OF THESE AND OTHER FILMS, SEE WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT.

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Weekend Entertainment



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Q Which star should have a clothing line?

COMMONWEALTH | U STREET | DEC 1

1. "Andre 3000," Amareed Gray, left, with Gabrielle Brutus. **2.** "Prince is sick with the clothing," Lyiici Domouro, left. "T.I.," Kyle Karnuma. **3.** "Santogold," Andrew Nounen-nady, left. "M.I.A.," Maya Francis, center, and Mimi Nguyen. **4.** "Colin Monroe. He's such an intellectual, different individual," Aja Lawson, left. "Kelis," Carolyn Lorenzo. **5.** "My line is called Fly Young," Jamaal Walton, left. "I got my own fashion line! Den'D Productions," Darnaye Himes. **6.** "The Paxtons," David Kenneth, right, and Ashley Williams. ROBYN MINCHER

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MARGARET THOMAS/FTWP

4 Winter Wonderland

You know you miss throwing snowballs at the neighborhood kids.

Enjoy winter festivities in Bethesda, where the ice men cometh to transform blocks of ice into sculptures. Expect hot chocolate and the fat man in a red suit. HANNAH KIM

→ Veterans Park, Woodmont and Norfolk Avenues; Sat., 1 p.m., free. (Bethesda)

5 Coming to America

"The Godfather" touches on cultural conflicts and family allegiance.

After a screening, a speaker from the National Museum of the American Indian will discuss why this film is resonant in his community.

→ National Gallery of Art, 600 Constitution Ave. NW; Sat., 2 p.m., free; 202-737-4215. (Smithsonian)



PARAMOUNT HOME



Addicted to Sweden

It's possible that we kvell over anything Scandinavian. But Love Is All would be awesome even if it wasn't Swedish.

Imagine a regular indie band, not the sad emo-comb-over kind. Now feed them an entire CVS' worth of candy and maybe a few Adderall and you have Love Is All, the most energetic, upbeat, happy dance-punk music around. They're bringing the party to the Rock and Roll Hotel, accompanied by Darker My Love and the Strange Boys. F.Z.

→ The Rock and Roll Hotel, 1353 H St. NE; Sat., 8:30 p.m., \$12; 202-388-7625.

top stops

WEEKEND



LENSPODNET/FTWP

2 Party Like It's 1933

Everyone's about the 1930s these days — we're heading into a crushing economic depression, blah, blah, blah — and so it seems only appropriate that we should re-create the biggest party of the 1930s.

Friday marks the 75th anniversary of the end of Prohibition. The Repeal Day party sounds like a sloppy-yet-classy affair, with some of D.C.'s best bartenders mixing drinks while '30s music plays. Food gets a nod, too. F.Z.

→ City Tavern Club, 3206 M St. NW; Fri., 8 p.m., \$90; 202-337-8770.

Symphonic Splendor

If you enjoy musicals — and who among us does not? — you might know of Jason Robert Brown. He's a young composer who has taken the young man angst that made Ben Folds so popular, otherwise known as, "I'm a vaguely dissatisfied guy who plays the piano really well," and translated it into musicals.

Brown has written orchestral music for a stage adaptation of "Trumpet of the Swan," the beloved children's story by E.B. White. The script is by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Marsha Norman, and Kathy Bates stars. F.Z.

→ Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; Thu.-Sat., 7:30 p.m., \$18-\$35; 202-467-4600. (Foggy Bottom)



dine&dash



RICHARD A. LIPSKI/FTWP

Baby Got Back — And Good Burgers

WITH A NAME LIKE Big Buns, the pun possibilities are endless. And we do love puns around here, and the restaurant obviously encourages it. But we'll spare you and skip straight to the serious food business.

Big Buns Gourmet Grill (4401 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; 703-276-3032) features simple American fare in an eco-friendly setting (look around for posters detailing its use of recyclable and biodegradable supplies). There are four meats (or meat-like items), all seasoned and grilled, to choose from as a base: an angus beef burger, chicken, mahi mahi, or a portabella mushroom. Have yours either on a bun or in a bowl of fresh romaine, all done up with any combination of six cheeses, 16 toppings and four sauces.

The burgers are famous, but for a healthier option, try the mahi mahi in a bowl with roasted red peppers, black bean and mango salsa, and sweet chili vinaigrette. It's not too spicy and not too sweet, and because the menu's so basic, the chefs can focus on cooking everything to perfection.

Add regular or sweet potato fries and a soft drink, milk shake or \$2 Yuengling (!) and you have a lot of great food for just over \$10. Because when they say their buns (along with everything else) are big, they mean it.

Basically, we like Big Buns and we cannot lie (sorry, it was just too easy). KELSEY PARRISH



Dine & Dash has more on local eats at expressnightout.com/dine

Television

ON TV THIS WEEKEND

THAT'S THE SPIRIT

GREATEST HOLIDAY MOMENTS: TV & FILM COUNTDOWN (8 p.m., NBC, Fri.) offers a clip-rich survey of heart-tugging Christmas specials and movies, from "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" to "It's a Wonderful Life."

CLASSIC IN THE MAKING

Good Christmas movies rarely take place in locales where everybody has to wear sunblock. And the characters usually learn a little humility along the way. **WELCOME TO MERRY CHRISTMAS, DRAKE & JOSH** (8 p.m., Nickelodeon, Fri.).

TRAPEZE PUPPIES

Cesar Millan visits with three Cirque du Soleil performers whose dogs present behavior problems on **THE DOG WHISPERER** (8 p.m., National Geographic, Fri.).

GRUMPY OLD MAN

Albert Finney plays Ebenezer Scrooge



FOR THE KIDS? Drake & Josh celebrate mean-spiritedness this holiday season.

in the 1970 "Christmas Carol" adaptation **SCROOGE** (midnight, TCM, Fri.).

PRICELINE AND HIP-HOP

William Shatner and Ludacris appear on **JIMMY KIMMEL LIVE** (12:05 a.m., ABC, Sat.).



DOOMED RELATIONSHIP: Celebrity couple Lisa Rinna and Harry Hamlin are ready to expose their lives to the cameras in a project for TV Land. The pilot will follow the lives of the husband-and-wife duo along with their two daughters'.

on **CRUSOE** (8 p.m., NBC, Sat.), now on a new night at a new time.

HEATHER HAS TO BE 62

Lifetime presents the shotgun marriage of the Christmas movie in **FLIRTING WITH FORTY** (9 p.m., Lifetime, Sat.). A single mother of two, Jackie (Heather Locklear) faces an emotional triple whammy: getting through the holidays on the first anniversary of her divorce and turning the big 4-0.

BRITISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS

Reese Witherspoon appears on **THE GRAHAM NORTON SHOW** (10 p.m., BBC America, Sat.).

DOWN TO THE WIRE

Three teams tangle for the big prize on the season finale of **AMAZING RACE** (8 p.m., CBS, Sun.).

POSSE OF PAIN

The miniseries **HOUSE OF SADDAM** (9 p.m., HBO, concludes next Sunday) examines the dictator's inner circle.

A SINKER OR A SWIMMER?

Timothy Hutton ("Everyday People,"



Timothy Hutton is TNT's newest undercover smoothie on "Leverage."

"Nero Wolfe") returns to episodic television in **LEVERAGE** (10 p.m., TNT, Sun.). Nate Ford (Hutton) is first seen in a bar drinking, moping and suffering. We quickly learn that he was a capable insurance investigator and responsible for foiling complex heists, saving his employers hundreds of millions of dollars. KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)



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TWILIGHT (PG-13)

(1255 400) 720 1005

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG-13)

(1220 250 525) 750 1020

ROLE MODELS (R) - ID REQ'D

(1225 255 520) 740 1000

MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE TO AFRICA (PG)

(1235 245 455) 710 925

BETHESDA 10

7272 Wisconsin Avenue 800-FANDANGO 589#

Adv. Tix on Sale YES MAN

Adv. Tix on Sale SEVEN POUNDS

Adv. Tix on Sale THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

CADILLAC RECORDS (R) - ID REQ'D

(1215 245 515) 745 1010

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG-13)

(1200 330) 700 1020

AUSTRALIA (PG-13)

(1220 240 510) 730 950

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13) ★

(1130 100 220 400 520) 700 745 1000 1030

BOLT (PG)

(1150 1230 200 250 415 500) 630 720 845 930

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG-13)

(1140 1240 210 300 440 530) 710 800 940 1030

MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE TO AFRICA (PG)

(100 310 520) 730 940

BOWIE STADIUM 14

15200 Major Lansdale Blvd 800-FANDANGO 454#

Adv. Tix on Sale YES MAN

Adv. Tix on Sale SEVEN POUNDS

Adv. Tix on Sale THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

CADILLAC RECORDS (R) - ID REQ'D

(1115 245) 715 945

NOBEL SON (R) - ID REQ'D

(1200 100 230 330 500) 600 730 830 1015 1115

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) - ID REQ'D

(1215 245 515) 745 1030

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13) ★

(1100 1215 115 230 330 445 545) 700 800 915 1015

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG-13)

(1145 1245 215 315 445 545) 715 815 945 1045

AUSTRALIA (PG-13)

(1115 245) 715 945

BOLT 3D - \$2.50 CHARGE FOR 3D (PG) ★

(1130 200 430) 700 930

BOLT (PG)

(1245 300 515) 730 1000

TWILIGHT (PG-13)

(1115 200 500) 745 1030

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG-13)

(1230 300 530) 815 1045

ROLE MODELS (R) - ID REQ'D

(415 PM) 1000 PM

SOUL MEN (R) - ID REQ'D

(145 PM) 715 PM

MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE TO AFRICA (PG)

(1200 215 430) 645 900

GALLERY PLACE STADIUM 14

701 Seventh St. NW 800-FANDANGO 1721#

Adv. Tix on Sale YES MAN

Adv. Tix on Sale SEVEN POUNDS

Adv. Tix on Sale THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

CADILLAC RECORDS (R) - ID REQ'D

(1200 235) 520 800 1035

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) - ID REQ'D

(1140 215) 455 740 1020 1240

OC & DA: AUSTRALIA (PG-13)

(1145 AM)

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13) ★

(1200 1250 200) 325 415 535 630 750 900 1015 1115 1225

AUSTRALIA (PG-13)

(1245) 315 445 645 830 1015 1200

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG-13)

(1210 240) 505 730 1000 1230

TWILIGHT (PG-13)

(100) 400 710 955 1220

BOLT 3D - \$2.50 CHARGE FOR 3D (PG) ★

(1150 210) 435 650 915

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG-13)

(1220 130 300) 425 545 720 810 1005 1040 1235

ROLE MODELS (R) - ID REQ'D

(1215 245) 515 755 1025 1230

MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE TO AFRICA (PG)

(1205 220) 435 700 925

RACHEL GETTING MARRIED (R) - ID REQ'D

(1250) 350 655 940

BALLSTON COMMON STADIUM 12

671 N Glebe Rd 800-FANDANGO 377#

NOBEL SON (R) - ID REQ'D

(155 440) 725 1020

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) - ID REQ'D

(210 500) 740 1030

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13) ★

(145 225 410 450) 635 715 900 940

AUSTRALIA (PG-13)

(1240 330 420) 610 800 950

TWILIGHT (PG-13)

(100 200 400) 700 1010

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG-13)

(115 420 505) 650 750 1000 1040

THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS (PG-13)

(110 445) 735 1010

ROLE MODELS (R) - ID REQ'D

(120 430) 710 945

MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE TO AFRICA (PG)

(130 355) 620 845

POTOMAC YARD STADIUM 16

3575 Jefferson Davis Hwy 800-FANDANGO 690#

Adv. Tix on Sale YES MAN

Adv. Tix on Sale SEVEN POUNDS

Adv. Tix on Sale THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

CADILLAC RECORDS (R) - ID REQ'D

(130 210 415 455) 700 740 945 1025 1200

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) - ID REQ'D

(150 435) 720 1005

NOBEL SON (R) - ID REQ'D

(220 515) 800 1040

OC: FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13) ★

(135 PM)

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13) ★

(235 400 500) 620 725 850 950

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG-13)

(120 405) 650 750 935 1035

AUSTRALIA (PG-13)

(230 330) 610 710 955 1055

BOLT (PG)

(255 PM 525 PM)

TWILIGHT (PG-13)

(1240 340) 640 940 1140

BOLT 3D - \$2.50 CHARGE FOR 3D (PG) ★

(155 425) 710 940

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG-13)

(100 200 345 445) 630 730 915 1015 1150

ROLE MODELS (R) - ID REQ'D

(115 400) 635 910 1150

SOUL MEN (R) - ID REQ'D

1120 PM

MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE TO AFRICA (PG)

(125 350) 625 845

KINGSTOWNE STADIUM 16

5910 Kingstowne Towne Center 703-822-4956

Adv. Tix on Sale YES MAN

Adv. Tix on Sale SEVEN POUNDS

Adv. Tix on Sale THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

CADILLAC RECORDS (R) - ID REQ'D

(1255 335) 715 955

NOBEL SON (R) - ID REQ'D

(110 355) 700 940

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) - ID REQ'D

(1200 230 510) 800 1030

RW & DA: FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13)

(1210 225 450) 720 945

AUSTRALIA (PG-13)

(1225 405 530) 745 910

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG-13)

(115 410) 735 1010

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13) ★

(105 330) 620 850

BOLT (PG)

(1220 120 250 350) 605 655 840 935

TWILIGHT (PG-13)

(1230 130 315 420) 630 730 915 1020

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG-13)

(1200 100 240 340 515) 645 750 925 1035

ROLE MODELS (R) - ID REQ'D

(1240 325) 635 905

MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE TO AFRICA (PG)

(1205 1250 220 310 445) 705 930

COUNTRYSIDE STADIUM 20

45980 Regal Plaza 800-FANDANGO 394#

Adv. Tix on Sale YES MAN

Adv. Tix on Sale SEVEN POUNDS

Adv. Tix on Sale THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

CADILLAC RECORDS (R) - ID REQ'D

(1245 405) 705 1010

NOBEL SON (R) - ID REQ'D

(125 425) 725 1015

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) - ID REQ'D

(1150 100 230 350 510) 650 750 940 1030

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13) ★

(1130 1220 110 150 240 330 410 450 540) 620 710 800 840 935 1020

AUSTRALIA (PG-13)

(1200 200 400) 610 810 945

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG-13)

(1205 235 500) 745 1035

OC & DA: TWILIGHT (PG-13)

(130 PM)

BOLT (PG)

(1140 1230 210 320) 630 900

TWILIGHT (PG-13)

(1210 310 430) 635 720 930 1010

BOLT 3D - \$2.50 CHARGE FOR 3D (PG) ★

(120 420) 730 1000

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG-13)

(1250 340 440) 640 740 920 1025

THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS (PG-13)

(105 345) 615 855

ROLE MODELS (R) - ID REQ'D

(1225 250) 700 1005

MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE TO AFRICA (PG)

(1145 1240 220 325 445) 635 725 850 950

FOX STADIUM 16

22875 Crawford Plz. Ashburn, VA 703-957-1035

Adv. Tix on Sale YES MAN

Adv. Tix on Sale SEVEN POUNDS

Adv. Tix on Sale THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

NOBEL SON (R) - ID REQ'D

(130 415) 715 950

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) - ID REQ'D

(210 440) 740 1020

RW & DA: FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13)

(1230 240 450) 720 940

AUSTRALIA (PG-13)

(1250 310 420) 645 750 1015

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG-13)

(115 340) 640 920

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13) ★

(140 350) 620 850

BOLT (PG)

(1245 210 320 430) 610 710 840 930

TWILIGHT (PG-13)

(110 220 400 510) 700 800 1000

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG-13)

(100 230 330 500) 600 730 830 1005

THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS (PG-13)

(120 345) 630 900

ROLE MODELS (R) - ID REQ'D

(300 520) 745 1010

MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE TO AFRICA (PG)

(200 410) 650 910

FAIRFAX TOWNE CENTER 10

4110 W Ox Road 800-FANDANGO 670#

Adv. Tix on Sale THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

CADILLAC RECORDS (R) - ID REQ'D

(130 430) 715 1000

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) - ID REQ'D

(235 510) 745 1020

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG-13) ★

(110 230 320 450 535) 710 800 925 1015

TWILIGHT - DP (PG-13)

(145 435) 740 1030

TWILIGHT (PG-13)

(1250 350) 655 945

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG-13)

(100 240 335 515) 615 700 750 850 935 1040

MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE TO AFRICA (PG)

(110 225 325 440) 710 930

MANASSAS STADIUM 14

11380 Bulloch Drive 800-FANDANGO 490#

Adv. Tix on Sale YES MAN

Adv. Tix on Sale SEVEN POUNDS

Adv. Tix on Sale THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

CADILLAC RECORDS (R) - ID REQ'D

(110 350) 730 1000

NOBEL SON (R) - ID REQ'D

(1210 250) 610 840

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) - ID REQ'D



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Eisenhower Ave and Telegraph Road in Alexandria
703-998-4AMC

IMAX MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG)
(10:05 @ \$9), 12:30, 2:55, 5:30, 7:50, 10:25

DIGITAL 3D
BOLT IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (PG) (10:15 @ \$8), 12:45, 3:15, 5:40, 8:05, 10:30

THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS (PG13) (10:55 @ \$6), 1:45, 4:25, 5:50, 9:40

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) (10:40, 11:40 @ \$6), 1:30, 2:30, 4:20, 5:20, 7:20, 8:20, 10:20, 11:20

AUSTRALIA (PG13) 12:05, 4:00, 7:40
AUSTRALIA (PG13) 12:05, 4:00, 7:40
FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG13) (10:50 @ \$6), 1:20, 4:05, 7:00, 9:30, 12:00, 4:15, 5:15, 7:35, 9:05, 10:05, 11:40

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG13) (11:30 @ \$6), 2:35, 5:15, 7:25, 8:00, 10:00, 10:30

BOLT (PG) (11:45 @ \$6), 2:15, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55
TWILIGHT (PG13) (10:25, 11:15 @ \$6), 1:25, 2:05, 4:15, 4:50, 7:05, 7:55, 9:50

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG13) (10:20, 11:20 @ \$6), 1:00, 2:00, 3:40, 4:40, 6:20, 7:15, 9:10, 9:50, 11:45

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (PG) (11:50 @ \$6), 2:20, 4:45, 7:05, 9:30
ROLE MODELS (R) (10:45 @ \$6), 1:20, 4:05, 7:00, 9:30, 12:00

SOUL MEN (R) (11:00 @ \$6), 1:50, 4:35, 7:30, 10:05
HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3: SENIOR YEAR (G) (10:35 @ \$6), 1:35, 4:30

CADILLAC RECORDS (R) (10:10, 11:10 @ \$6), 1:10, 2:10, 4:10, 5:10, 7:10, 8:10, 10:10, 11:10

NOBEL SON (R) (11:05 @ \$6), 1:55, 4:45, 7:45, 10:20
THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES (PG13) 7:10, 9:45

AMC COLUMBIA MALL 14

10300 Patuxent Parkway
1 (888) AMC-4FUN

IMAX MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG)
(11:35 @ \$9), 1:55, 4:25, 7:20, 9:50

DIGITAL 3D
BOLT IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (PG) (11:00 @ \$8), 2:00, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) (10:50 @ \$6), 1:30, 4:20, 7:30, 10:20

AUSTRALIA (PG13) 12:05, 4:00, 7:40, 10:20
FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG13) (11:50 @ \$6), 1:20, 4:30, 7:05, 9:30

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG13) (11:15 @ \$6), 1:50, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30

BOLT (PG) 12:20, 3:00, 5:40, 8:15, 10:40
TWILIGHT (PG13) (10:45 @ \$6), 1:40, 4:35, 6:10, 7:45, 9:15, 10:45

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG13) (11:30 @ \$6), 12:30, 2:30, 3:30, 5:15, 6:15, 8:00, 9:00, 10:50

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (PG) (10:20 @ \$6), 12:50, 3:15, 5:40, 7:10, 9:40

ROLE MODELS (R) 1:50, 4:50, 7:50, 10:25
CADILLAC RECORDS (R) (11:10 @ \$6), 2:05, 4:45, 7:25, 10:10

NOBEL SON (R) (10:30 @ \$6), 1:20, 4:15, 7:10, 10:00

LOEWS GEORGETOWN 14

3111 K Street, N.W.
202-342-6441

DIGITAL 3D
BOLT IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (PG) 12:35, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) 12:00, 2:20, 4:55, 7:35, 10:20

AUSTRALIA (PG13) 12:00, 3:20, 7:00, 10:35
FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG13) 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG13) 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:40, 10:15

BOLT (PG) 2:00, 4:30
TWILIGHT (PG13) 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG13) 12:30, 2:05, 3:05, 4:40, 5:40, 7:15, 8:15, 9:55, 10:50

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (PG) 12:50, 3:15, 5:25, 7:55, 10:25

ROLE MODELS (R) 12:40, 3:10, 5:35, 8:05, 10:45
ZACK AND MIRI (R) 6:55, 9:30

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) 12:55, 1:55, 3:50, 4:50, 6:45, 7:45, 9:40, 10:40

AMC POTOMAC MILLS 18

2700 Potomac Mills Circle, Ste 886
703-998-4262

IMAX MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA: THE IMAX EXPERIENCE (PG)
(9:50 @ \$9), 12:10, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:30, 11:45

DIGITAL 3D
BOLT IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (PG) (11:40 @ \$8), 2:20, 4:45, 7:20, 9:40, 12:05

THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS (PG13) (11:35 @ \$6), 2:00, 4:20, 6:50, 9:10

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) (11:20 @ \$6), 2:05, 4:40, 7:30, 10:25

AUSTRALIA (PG13) 12:05, 4:00, 7:40, 10:20
AUSTRALIA (PG13) 12:05, 4:00, 7:40, 10:20
FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG13) (10:10, 11:30 @ \$6), 12:25, 1:55, 2:50, 4:15, 5:15, 6:45, 7:40, 9:15, 10:10, 11:30

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG13) (9:55, 11:10 @ \$6), 12:20, 1:40, 2:45, 4:25, 5:20, 6:55, 7:45, 9:35, 10:15, 12:00

BOLT (PG) (10:00 @ \$6), 12:35, 3:05, 5:40, 8:15, 10:40
TWILIGHT (PG13) (10:05, 11:00 @ \$6), 1:00, 2:10, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 10:55

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG13) (11:05 @ \$6), 1:50, 2:30, 4:30, 5:10, 7:10, 7:50, 9:50, 10:30

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (PG) (10:50 @ \$6), 1:25, 3:55, 6:05, 8:15, 10:15, 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:35, 10:20

CADILLAC RECORDS (R) (11:45 @ \$6), 2:35, 5:25, 8:05, 10:45
NOBEL SON (R) (10:55 @ \$6), 1:45, 4:35, 7:25, 10:05

AMC COURTHOUSE PLAZA 8

Courthouse and Birch Rd.
703-998-4AMC

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG13) 12:30, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:10
BOLT (PG) 12:10, 1:30, 2:40, 4:00, 4:50, 6:30, 7:10, 9:00, 9:30

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3: SENIOR YEAR (G) 12:40, 3:10, 5:40
NIGHTS IN RODANTHE (PG13) 8:10, 10:25

CHANGELING (R) 1:00, 4:10, 7:20, 10:20
THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES (PG13) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

THE DUCHESS (PG13) 12:20, 2:50, 5:30, 8:00, 10:35
RACHEL GETTING MARRIED (R) 2:20, 5:05, 7:50, 10:30

MAGIC JOHNSON CAPITAL CENTRE 12

800 Shopper's Way, Largo
301-324-4220

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) (11:00 @ \$6), 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 9:50

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG13) 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 7:50, 10:20

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG13) 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 7:50, 10:20

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG13) (11:50 @ \$6), 2:20, 4:55, 7:15, 9:45

BOLT (PG) (11:45 @ \$6), 2:15, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40
TWILIGHT (PG13) 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG13) (11:35 @ \$6), 2:05, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (PG) (10:40 @ \$6), 12:50, 3:10, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

ROLE MODELS (R) 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
SOUL MEN (R) 12:05, 2:30, 5:00, 7:25, 9:55

CADILLAC RECORDS (R) (10:30, 11:30 @ \$6), 1:00, 2:00, 3:45, 4:45, 6:30, 7:30, 9:15, 10:15

THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES (PG13) (10:35 @ \$6), 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10

LOEWS SHIRLINGTON 7

2772 South Randolph
703-671-0910 801

THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS (PG13) 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:00

I'VE LOVED YOU SO LONG (PG13) 2:10, 4:50, 7:25, 9:55

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) 1:45, 3:15, 4:30, 5:55, 7:20, 8:45, 10:00

HAPPY-GO-LUCKY (R) 2:00, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55
THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES (PG13) 1:50, 4:20, 7:05, 9:30

RACHEL GETTING MARRIED (R) 1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:50

LOEWS UPTOWN 1

3426 Connecticut Avenue N.W.
1-800-FANDANGO #713

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG13) 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10

AMC TYSONS CORNER 16

7850 Tysons Corner Center
703-998-4262

DIGITAL 3D
BOLT IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (PG) (10:20 @ \$8), 12:45, 3:15, 5:50, 8:15, 10:35

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) (9:30 @ \$6), 12:10, 2:50, 5:30, 8:10, 10:50, 1:00

AUSTRALIA (PG13) (9:00 @ \$6), 12:30, 4:00, 5:15, 7:30, 8:45, 10:55, 12:20

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG13) (9:05, 10:05, 11:20 @ \$6), 12:20, 1:45, 2:45, 4:10, 5:25, 6:35, 7:50, 8:55, 10:15, 11:20, 12:40

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG13) (9:20 @ \$6), 12:00, 2:30, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30, 12:55

BOLT (PG) (9:15, 11:35 @ \$6), 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30, 11:55

TWILIGHT (PG13) (9:10, 10:30 @ \$6), 12:05, 1:25, 3:00, 4:20, 5:55, 7:15, 8:50, 10:05, 11:35, 12:50

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG13) (10:40 @ \$6), 1:35, 4:25, 5:45, 7:10, 8:30, 9:50, 11:15, 12:30

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (PG) (9:00, 10:10, 11:10 @ \$6), 12:35, 1:30, 2:55, 4:00, 6:20, 8:35, 10:45

ROLE MODELS (R) (9:45 @ \$6), 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:45, 10:20, 12:45

CADILLAC RECORDS (R) (11:15 @ \$6), 1:55, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55, 12:25

NOBEL SON (R) (9:35 @ \$6), 12:25, 3:05, 5:40, 8:20, 11:00

AMC MAZZA GALLERIE

Genifer and Wisconsin
202-537-9553

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) (2:50, 5:30, 8:00, 10:25

AUSTRALIA (PG13) (3:10, 6:50, 10:20

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG13) (3:20, 5:40, 7:50, 10:10

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG13) (2:00, 4:30, 7:40, 10:00

BOLT (PG) 1:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30
TWILIGHT (PG13) 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:30

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (PG) 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:45

LOEWS RIO CINEMAS 18

9811 Washingtonian Boulevard
301-948-0906

DIGITAL 3D
BOLT IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (PG) (11:15 @ \$8), 1:45, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30, 11:50

THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS (PG13) 12:00, 2:30, 5:05, 7:30, 9:50

PUNISHER: WAR ZONE (R) (9:45 @ \$6), 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 8:10, 10:50

AUSTRALIA (PG13) 12:05, 3:35, 4:45, 7:05, 8:15, 10:45, 11:45

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG13) (10:05 @ \$6), 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:25, 10:40

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG13) 12:05, 3:35, 4:45, 7:05, 8:15, 10:45, 11:45

TRANSPORTER 3 (PG13) (11:50 @ \$6), 2:20, 4:55, 7:15, 9:45

BOLT (PG) (11:45 @ \$6), 2:15, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40
TWILIGHT (PG13) 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG13) (11:35 @ \$6), 2:05, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

MADAGASCAR: ESCAPE 2 AFRICA (PG) (10:40 @ \$6), 12:50, 3:10, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

ROLE MODELS (R) 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
SOUL MEN (R) 12:05, 2:30, 5:00, 7:25, 9:55

CADILLAC RECORDS (R) (10:30, 11:30 @ \$6), 1:00, 2:00, 3:45, 4:45, 6:30, 7:30, 9:15, 10:15

THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES (PG13) (10:35 @ \$6), 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10

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AUSTRALIA (PG13) 2:35, 6:15, 9:40

FOUR CHRISTMASSES (PG13) 2:05, 4:40, 7:25, 9:50

BOLT (PG) 2:15, 4:35, 7:15, 9:45

QUANTUM OF SOLACE (PG13) 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:00

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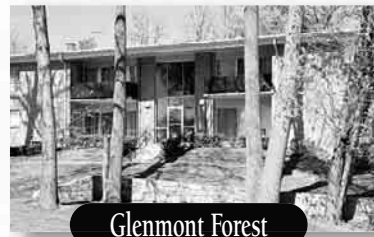
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Alex S.- SHR, Furn RM, prv ent, shr kit Bus & metro.
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Health

More hospitals offer fancy amenities to promote stress relief

At suburban Detroit's Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital, patients will indulge in gourmet room service, stroll walking trails and take cooking classes. A former Ritz-Carlton executive is running the show.

The description seems more day spa than sick bay. But hospitals are finding it pays to pump up the perks as they compete for patients who want a bit extra — and have private health insurance. Proponents add that these amenities promote healing and stress relief.

Others see a chasm deepening between hospitals pushing into leafy suburbs to grab market share and those serving poorer patient populations. Quentin Young, a longtime Chicago doctor and national coordinator of the nonprofit Physicians for a National Health Program, calls it the “edifice complex.”

“The revolution now is to find any way possible to reduce the stress, reduce the tension.”

RICK WADE,
AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

Because private health insurance offers better reimbursement than government payers such as Medicaid or Medicare, the perks are partly meant to lure more profitable patients, according to those who study health care trends.

The clinical care at the Henry Ford Health System's new hospital, set to open in March, will be no

different from what it offers at its older, flagship hospital in downtown Detroit, according to the not-for-profit hospital chain's chief executive, Nancy Schlichting.

However, the design and other services are meant to stand out.

The \$360 million hospital's atrium resembles a northern Michigan Main Street complete with storefronts that will offer health and wellness products geared toward women, who hold most of the purchasing power in health care, hospital Chief Executive Gerard van Grinsven said.

“Women are not satisfied anymore in getting traditional medical care,” said van Grinsven, who came to Henry Ford from the Ritz-Car-

lton hotel chain with no hospital experience. “They want activities and programs to help them in their physical and mental well-being.”

Hospital leaders say many of the amenities they stuff into modern designs happen because today's patient wants more than just top-line care, a palatable meal and a clean bedpan. Take Internet service, for example, which has become common in patients' rooms.

“I have an 85-year-old aunt in Indiana who I don't think wants to be away from her computer very often because that's how she keeps in touch with her family all around the country,” said Rick Wade, senior vice president of the American Hospital Association.

He also noted that fewer people stay in hospitals these days, thanks to the growth of outpatient care. Those who fill beds generally receive “pretty intense treatment.”

“The revolution now is to find any way possible to reduce the stress, reduce the tension, reduce the anxiety,” he said.

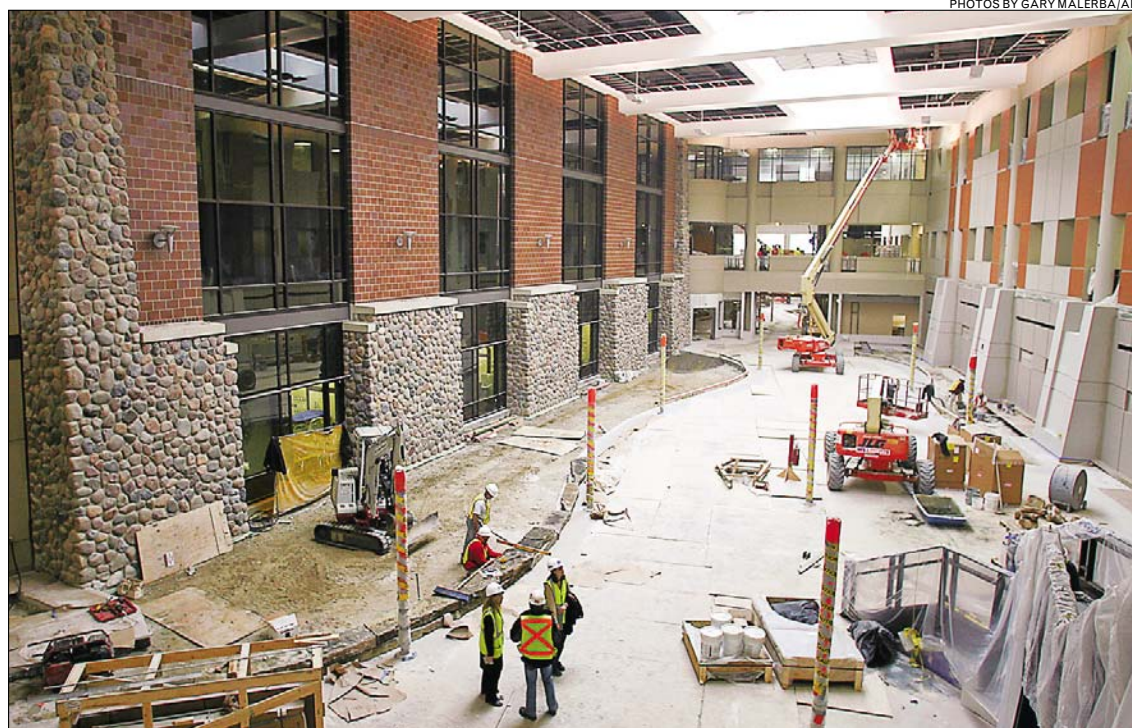
INSIDE

Oprah to bring show to D.C. | 38



Blog Log: Trouble with D.C.'s 911 service | 36

Discussions: La Canfora on the Redskins | 36



HEALTHY PROGRESS: Spaces for health and wellness shops are created in the atrium of Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital.

Perks for Patients



Gerard van Grinsven, chief executive of the Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital in Bloomfield, Mich., discusses the \$360 million atrium being built at the new hospital.

steps for its \$170 million expansion.

It added a patient concierge who can run errands or fetch groceries. Community North, which borders fast-growing Indianapolis suburbs, also sprinkled about \$400,000 in art throughout its hospital.

Hospital leaders say these extra touches all have a purpose. The artwork — paid for by donors — and the concierge offer stress relief.

“We don't do things just to look pretty. We have a purpose behind it,” said Mark Hayden, senior facilities project manager for the hospital's parent, Community Health Network.

The new \$829 million Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center in Los Angeles features the latest in clinical technology and, thanks again to donors, extra touches such as granite countertops.

Hospitals aren't adding perks just to ease stress. Competition also plays a role.

“If a patient has a free choice to go to this hospital or that hospital, they're going to choose the one that has the better amenities,” said Dr. James Atkinson, chief of pediatric surgery at the Ronald Reagan center. “That is a factor.”

TOM MURPHY (AP)

Many hospitals tout single rooms, made more common by federal regulations protecting privacy.

Many also offer valet parking. Community Hospital North in Indianapolis took a couple extra

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SOUND BETS

Snag Sounds

SnagFilms' free music-documentary library is growing by leaps and bounds, and we've been digging in. Spend part of your Friday with us by tuning into "Pied Piper of Hutzovina," which follows Eugene Hutz, leader of Gypsy-punks Gogol Bordello, back to his native Ukraine. | [ONLINE NOW](#)



MUSIC

All You Need Is ...

Love Is All is a modern five-piece indie-pop group with all 10 of its feet in the past, particularly the early '80s post-punk mix of rock, dance and avant-garde. The Swedish band plays the Rock and Roll Hotel on Saturday, and Christopher Porter spoke with singer Josephine Olausson. | [ONLINE NOW](#)

SOUND BETS

Video Vibes

Spend sometime on the clock today looking at some great music. We've posted videos by metalheads (Enslaved, Abigail Williams), pop stars (Lily Allen), indie rockers (Constatines, LCD Soundsystem) hip-hop (M.I.A.) and reggae (Shaggy.) | [ONLINE NOW](#)



poll center

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS AS OF 5 P.M.

DO YOU AGREE WITH D.C.'S DECISION TO KEEP BARS OPEN 24 HOURS DURING INAUGURATION WEEK?

YES 52%

NO 48%



"This inauguration is the most historically significant since the Civil War. That the District is loosening its usual lockdown, tight[wad] approach to life should be roundly applauded."

COMMENTER E RUCASTLE, RESPONDING TO THURSDAY'S POLL CENTER QUESTION, "DO YOU AGREE WITH D.C.'S DECISION TO KEEP BARS OPEN 24 HOURS DURING INAUGURATION WEEK?"

"No way! The police are going to have trouble enough with the 5 million people descending on the capital. How are they going to round up 5 million drunk people?"

COMMENTER AMANDA, WHO ADDED, "I VOTED OBAMA, BUT I FIND A NEW REASON EVERY DAY TO NOT BE HERE FOR INAUGURATION."

"As a D.C. police officer, allow me to say this: What was the D.C. Council thinking when it passed this bill?"

COMMENTER TEE, WHO ADDED, "I WILL NOT BE PREJUDICED WHEN HANDCUFFING A POLITICIAN AND/OR ANY MEMBERS OF HIS OR HER FAMILY."

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED AT EXPRESSNIGHTOUT.COM/POLLCENTER

Blog LOG

"Do you know what there are a lot of in Bloomingdale [in D.C.]? Jewelry designers. We could use a big neighborhood design showcase."

BLOOMINGDALENEIGHBORHOOD.BLOGSPOT.COM WOULD LOVE TO SEE A GRASSROOTS COMMUNITY EFFORT FOR THE PROJECT, ADDING, "ANYONE WANT TO WORK WITH ME ON THAT?"



"This is not really news. Everyone knows that if you call an ambulance in D.C., it either won't arrive or the crackerjack medic will find a way to make your heart stop."

WHYIHATEDC.BLOGSPOT.COM COMMENTS ON THE STORY OF A 39-YEAR-OLD D.C. MAN WHO CALLED 911 AFTER EXPERIENCING CHEST PAINS. AFTER PARAMEDICS CAME AND LEFT, HE DIED IN HIS HOME.

"WHEN I ASKED my wife, the catering chef, how she thought I should make rice for 90 people for Friday's Parents Night dinner where I teach 'food appreciation,' she didn't hesitate. 'Do it in the oven,' she said."

THESLOWCOOK.BLOGSPOT.COM RELAYS A CATERING TRICK HE GOT FROM HIS WIFE, ADDING, "IT WAS, AS ADVERTISED, JUST AS UNCLE BEN HAD CLAIMED: PERFECT."

"I'm going to be on Oprah's Web site day and night looking for those tickets. I will be getting no sleep from Jan. 19 to 20 ... good Lord."

HELLONEGRO.COM REACTS TO NEWS THAT OPRAH WILL BE TAPING HER TELEVISION SHOW IN D.C. DURING INAUGURATION WEEK FROM THE KENNEDY CENTER.



Discussions

Redskins Report

Washington Post staff writer **JASON LA CANFORA** was online Thursday to discuss what it will take for the Redskins to make it to the playoffs.

I know Clinton Portis is the heart and soul of the offense, but shouldn't Betts get more carries? With all of Portis' ailments, I'm thinking 50/50 against the Ravens. And do you see a new contract for Deangelo Hall before the offseason?

I am with you 100 percent and have been banging this drum for a long time. They need more rotation, especially on passing downs. I'd be very stunned if Hall does not explore all of his free agent office. Very surprised. He makes plays



QB Jason Campbell, left, has struggled recently, while Portis is battling injuries.

on the ball, for sure, but he can get exposed jumping stuff, and we'll see how he fares should he get a tough match-up down the stretch. This is probably the end for Springs here.

Which direction do you see the Redskins going in the draft? Especially with their trading their second-round-

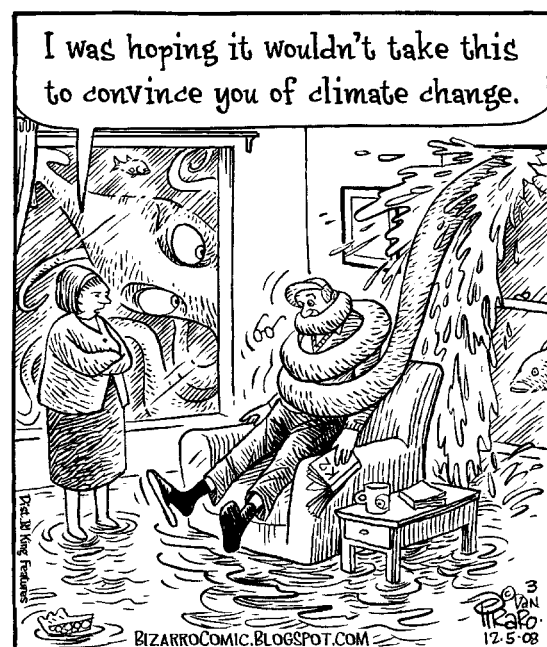
er for Jason Taylor.

Nice trade, huh? They can't help themselves, I suppose. It's hard to say what happens in the draft, because so much will be predicated on free agency, which comes first.

I like Jason Campbell, but he's just an average QB. Nothing special. I certainly wouldn't break the bank to re-sign him.

I don't get it. So, he's "average" now, a mere three-quarters of a season into another new system, and so thus he'll be average forever? Was Eli Manning a star this time a year ago? What did Tim Hasselbeck look like in his first year with Zorn? Jason is outperforming them at a similar stage by a wide margin.

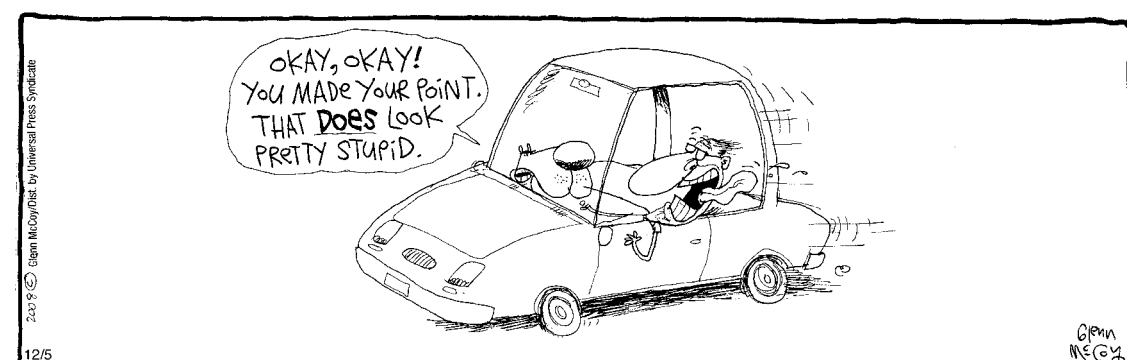
TODAY ON DISCUSSIONS: Post movie critic Ann Hornaday has the scoop on "Cadillac Records," "Punisher: War Zone" and "Bolt" at 12:30 p.m. | washingtonpost.com/discussions.

Bizarro | Dan Piraro

Cornered | Mike Baldwin


"In your grievance you claim you've been exploited and unappreciated. You mean here, or when we're at home?"

Pooch Cafe | Paul Gilligan

Pearls Before Swine | Stephan Pastis

The Duplex | Glenn McCoy


Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) You may have to rush about in order to make an important appointment during the evening hours. Don't lose control, however.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Concentrate on those issues you know will arise in the near future. Anticipation is the key to success now and in the future.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Don't get cocky or smug. You don't want to give anyone the wrong idea, particularly when making a first impression.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) Keep your eyes and ears open for messages that may not concern you directly, but that will affect you in subtle ways throughout the day.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Something you feel that you desperately need is indeed within reach — though all indications may tell you otherwise at first.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Be sure you're laughing as hard as everyone else when all is revealed, for you're likely to be the butt of your own joke.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Concentrate on family obligations. You may have to leave work early in order to grant someone close to you a special favor.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Don't be rash. You must accept what comes, and be willing to give everything a fair trial. Keep your emotions in check.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Focus your attention on business issues raised by others. It is important that you learn as much as possible — as quickly as possible.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) It is essential that you watch and listen to those around you. All will appreciate your sensitivity.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) It will be up to you to stabilize an otherwise rocky family situation. Sensitivity and understanding can win you the results you seek.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) This day may provide an unforeseen romantic opportunity — and you'll want to be ready for it when it comes. A renewal is in the offing.

Letters

Is Juarez Safer Than Iraq?

I ALWAYS APPRECIATE the glib humor of the Eye Opener section, even in the Dec. 4 edition of Express in which you mentioned two camels on the loose in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, under the headline "It's

Safer Than Iraq." I did find it an ironic headline, though, given that a story on Page 7 referred to U.S. funds going to Mexico to combat the drug war crisis plaguing Mexico — a drug war that has resulted in 4,000 people's being murdered this year. If it is safer in Juarez than it is in Iraq, it is not by much.

—JOHN FOSTER
Via e-mail

WRITE TO EXPRESS: Include name, hometown and telephone number. Submissions may be edited. E-mail to inbox@readexpress.com or mail to Express Letters, PO Box 17370, Arlington, VA 22216.

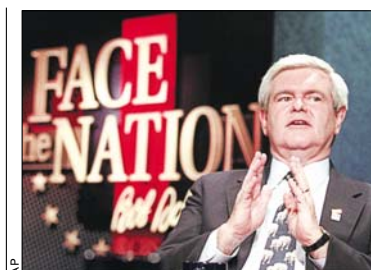
Today in History

1776 The first scholastic fraternity in America, Phi Beta Kappa, is organized at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Va.

1848 President James K. Polk triggers the Gold Rush of 1949 by confirming gold has been discovered in California.

1994 Newt Gingrich is chosen as the first GOP speaker of the House in four decades.

2003 The two makers of flu shots in the United States, Chiron and Aventis Pasteur, announce they have run out of vaccine



Gingrich was chosen as speaker in 1994.

and will not be able to meet a surge in demand.

2007 A teenager goes on a shooting rampage at a mall in Omaha, Neb., killing six store employees, two customers and himself.

PostPoints DAILY CODE **N P**

LOOK

out

People



Gina Lee Nolan runs a mean carpool.

ARRIVALS

Former Pinup Buys World's Tiniest Bikini and Diapers

Former “Baywatch” bombshell **GINA LEE NOLAN** and her hockey player hubby, Cale Hulse, welcomed their second child together, a girl, Wednesday in Scottsdale, Ariz. Nolan and Hulse met on a blind date and married in 2004. (AP)

FASHION

Woman Samples Model's Style, Cynthia Nixon's Face



The Daily Mail has accused the wife of Britain's prime minister of copying Carla Bruni-Sarkozy's style. **SARAH BROWN** appeared in Parliament dressed in a Dior-like gray suit and a purple beret. (EXPRESS)



BROADCASTING

Ken Cen Honored

OPRAH WINFREY will host a live episode of “The Oprah Winfrey Show” from the Kennedy Center Opera House on Jan. 19, the day before Barack Obama is sworn in as president of the United States, Harpo Productions said Thursday. Information about ticketing will be available next week on Oprah.com. At least two shows are planned in D.C. that week, the second on Jan. 21. (AP)



RAD MAN

New Job, New Home, But Still in New York

JON HAMM is temporarily trading the offices of Sterling Cooper for “30 Rock.” The actor, who plays advertising executive Don Draper on AMC’s “Mad Men,” will portray Tina Fey’s character Liz Lemon’s love interest — a doctor who lives in her apart-

AMC star to swim in warmer network waters.

ment building. Could it last? “I just finished a couple of episodes, and I’ll go back in the new year and do another one of those, and then we’ll see what happens,” Hamm said Tuesday at a benefit for the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television. (AP)

ARRESTED

Bad-Hair-Day Excuse Denied

According to the L.A. County Sheriff’s Department, **JASON ALEXANDER**, 27, the Kentwood, La., native who was married to Britney Spears for 55 hours, has been arrested on an alleged DUI violation. Alexander was arrested on Dec. 3 and is sched-



uled for release on Dec. 9. This comes during a very busy week for his ex-wife, who is currently promoting her new record, “Circus,” and preparing for a tour in the spring. (EXPRESS)

EXPECTING

‘Men in Trees’ a Memory; Baby From Set a Certainty

Actress **ANNE HECHÉ**, 39, is expecting a second baby, her first with boyfriend James Tupper, 43. The pair met on the set of ABC’s defunct comedy “Men in Trees.” Heche settled her divorce from her first husband and baby daddy, Coleman Laffoon, in June. (EXPRESS)

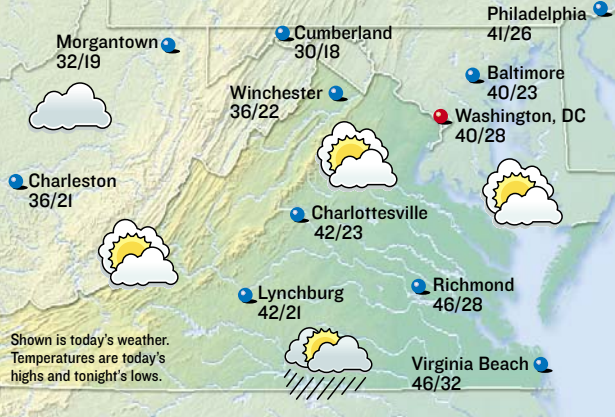


On a clear day, you can see Celestia.

5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

Today	Tonight	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
40°	28°	40° / 31°	39° / 24°	43° / 30°	47° / 38°

Regional Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2008

Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Thur.

Temperature

High 52°

Low 39°

Normal high 51°

Normal low 35°

Average humidity 55%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m. 0.00"

Month to date 0.00"

Normal month to date 0.40"

Year to date 43.52"

Last year to date 29.95"

Normal year to date 36.81"

For up-to-the-minute weather, see: washingtontimes.com/weather

Regional Forecast

D.C. Metro: Today, partly sunny, windy, colder. High 40. Wind northwest 8-18 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 28. Wind north 4-8 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today 7:12 a.m.

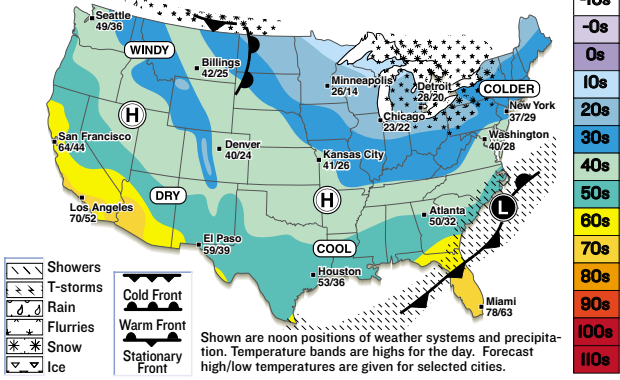
Sunset tonight 4:46 p.m.

Moonrise today 12:13 p.m.

Moonset today none



National Weather for Friday, December 5



National Cities

City	Today	Sat.
Atlanta	50/32/pc	54/34/pc
Boston	36/28/pc	38/30/s
Chicago	23/22/pc	30/16/sn
Dallas	49/34/pc	62/38/s
Denver	40/24/pc	53/29/pc
Honolulu	81/69/s	81/68/s
Los Angeles	70/52/s	72/52/pc
Miami	78/63/pc	80/61/s
New York City	37/29/pc	40/31/s
Orlando	76/54/pc	72/52/pc
Seattle	49/36/pc	49/40/r

World Cities

City	Today	Sat.
Amsterdam	43/37/c	45/38/pc
Athens	66/54/c	64/58/c
Berlin	42/35/c	37/32/r
Buenos Aires	82/68/s	88/72/pc
Calgary	42/22/c	34/23/c
Dublin	46/39/pc	45/39/pc
Geneva	41/37/r	38/34/sn
Moscow	45/39/r	43/39/sh
Rome	56/47/r	58/45/pc
Sydney	84/70/pc	86/68/t
Tokyo	63/43/r	52/39/s

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

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Find another Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.





*QUESTION:

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Style

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THE BEST DRESS LIST

GLAM UP AT HOLIDAY BASHES IN A FLORAL FROCK, SLEEK SHEATH OR LITTLE BLACK BEAUTY **E6**



face^{QA}time

■ **Hip, happy homemakers** applauded the arrival of Domino three years ago. Now, the shelter mag's editors, including creative director Sara Ruffin Costello, have put their top tips into "Domino: The Book of Decorating" (\$32, Simon & Schuster), which will be fêted on Dec. 11 at the Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams store (5:30 p.m., 1526 14th St. NW; 202-332-3433).

The book offers lots of decorating ideas for the whole house. It seems like no room was left unturned.

We wanted it to be exhaustive, and it was exhausting to make. But, we hope we don't exhaust the reader.

You say that before getting started, it's good to create a collection of favorite decor pictures.

You really want to do your research and read the tea leaves about your design tastes. You might think you love French toile, but inside, there's a modernist dying to get out.

It's that easy to identify your taste?

I would definitely ask a friend to help, because you can lie to yourself. You might want to be one type of person, but, really, you're more comfortable in a different style.

Once you've figured out what look you're going for, what comes next?

Really, the point of identifying your style is to stay on course when making changes. Without a focus, it's too easy to do a little impulse buying. Some things turn out happily, and others are major mistakes.

It can be easy to buy lots of little things you like, instead of deciding whether they're really needed additions.

I always tell people, "You're the director here." You have to think about the big picture and give your house one cohesive point of view. If you only think about the details, you'll have a whole bunch of small things that don't really go together.

Any tricks for avoiding that?

Walk around your home and take



JULIANA SOHN

Sara Ruffin Costello

DOMINO EDITOR, DECOR TROUBLESHOOTER

some digital pictures of the stuff you love, stuff you don't, stuff you're not sure about. From there, start to rearrange things. I call it shopping your own home. The idea is to isolate pieces so you can see them with a fresh eye.

What do you suggest for someone with limited time or a limited budget?

Paint is really the quickest way for

a radical before-and-after. My new thing is painting ceilings and doors. Try painting the ceiling light gray or the doors red and see what it does in the room. It's a way of dipping a toe into color.

Changes don't need to be pricey?

One of our favorite tricks is the giant Japanese paper lantern. For \$30, it does a lot for a room.

"You might think you love toile, but inside, there's a modernist dying to get out."

What are your favorite decorating resources?

There's a great art site called 20x200.com, which has reasonably priced works by emerging artists. I also love Decorati.com for inspiration, because it features items only available to the industry. There's also a great L.A. store for fixtures and other finds called Liz's Antique Hardware at Lahardware.com. It's just beyond.

Not everyone is confident in his or her decorating ability. Any advice for nervous interior designers?

I think we can all tap into the creative side of our brain. But, really, the best way to achieve something that doesn't come to you naturally is to copy it. BETSY LOWTHER (EXPRESS)

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in today's Express.

Out of the Blue

WHEN PROENZA SCHOULER DUO Jack McCollough and Lazaro Hernandez teamed up with Shiseido Makeup artistic director Dick Page to come up with the look for their fall fashion show, the result was beauty history. Page's fresh, bold, blue-framed eyes were a runway hit, spurring a limited-edition Shiseido Hydro-Powder Eye Shadow (\$23, Sephora.com). One light swipe on lids helps make any shade of eyes pop.



Grab Bag

A Meat Trick

CHICKEN, STEAK, fish and even tofu slabs have a zesty friend in the new rubs by Bethesda's In a Pinch Fine Spices (\$7-\$8, Hill's Kitchen, 713 D St. SE; 202-543-1997). Blends, which come in sleek, my-cucina-is-hipper-than-yours metal tins, range from the subtle, lime- and orange-rich Citrus Dill Seafood Rub to the buzzy Milanese Espresso Rub. The latter added a pleasingly buzzy wallop of coffee, cayenne and pepper to a Saturday-night sirloin.



Stamp of Approval

VINTAGE CLOTHING often needs a little zap of something to make it mod. That's the idea behind the collaboration between D.C. retro purveyor Listopad and designer Renee Glazer. Using a Japanese screen printer, Glazer embellishes '60s to '80s pieces with tribal- and nature-inspired logos. See and snag the merchandise, including a men's military shirt (\$50), at a bash at Napoleon Bistro (1847 Columbia Road NW) Wednesday from 6 to 9 p.m.



Glo with The Flow

WHEN TOY WATCH first released its neon collection several months back, the day-glo timepieces sold out in what seemed like seconds. Now, the brighter-than-Miami Beach hues have been restocked (\$195, Bloomingdale's, 5300 Western Ave., Chevy Chase; 240-744-3700). They're a perfect, punchy accent for a neutral ensemble.

dear
manolo

ANSWERS FROM THE SHOEBLOGGER

I'm going to a graduate-school holiday potluck with my boyfriend, and I'm not sure what to wear. My style is pretty conservative. Help! — SANDRA

■ Manolo says, ayyy! Merry Non-Specific Period of Non-Oppressive Festivities to all! Let the tofurkey and macrobiotic sprouts flow like organic wine! And now, let the Manolo stipulate that if the phrase "graduate-school potluck" does not strike dread into your heart, you are not the feeling person. The very words conjure up



the sort of lugubrious hilarity and culinary achievement one associates with Moldovan politburo lunches, sans the lubricating effects of vodka.

It is the little known fact that graduate students are among the most miserable peoples in the world. Yes, the first year begins in high spirits, but then the misanthropic gloom settles in, brought on by the low pay, the low self-esteem and the low, muffled beating of the unfinished dissertation, which, like the tell-tale heart, lies insistently beneath the floorboards of the mind.

No reason you, the non-grad student, should not be cheery. Here is the partylicious Laugh from Franco Sarto (\$119, Zappos.com).

@ Ask the Manolo a question at manolo@shoeblogs.com. Visit the Manolo at shoeblogs.com.

ON THE COVER

Kasia wears a Tracy Reese dress (\$295, Proper Topper, 3213 P St. NW; 202-333-6200) and flower headband (\$5.80, Forever 21). Model, T.H.E. Artist Agency. Hair and makeup, Richard Bernal/T.H.E. Artist Agency. Photo by Marge Ely.

Apparent Votives

NO MORE SCRAMBLING to track down eight crazy nights' worth of candles — your stash of Ikea tea lights will get you through the Hanukkah season with this glass votive menorah (\$19, Home Rule, 1807 14th St. NW, 202-797-5544; Homerule.com). Drag the shiny shot glass-shaped holders out again come Purim, and we have another idea of what you can do with them. L'chaim!



Comfort & Gorge

The office potluck. Christmas dinner for your in-laws. Dessert for your Hanukkah party. 'Tis the season to cook and fuss over food, and these season-appropriate tomes can help you do just that. But don't call us on Jan. 2 when your waistline is as large as your cookbook collection. **EXPRESS**

FEASTS



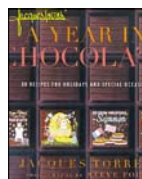
"The Christmas Table" by Diane Morgan (\$20, Chronicle)
→ THE DEAL: Dishes for every holiday

happening from the office cookie exchange (coconut-orange snowballs) to Xmas morning brunch (blueberry ricotta pancakes), with tips on planning and decorating.

→ HAUL IT OUT FOR: A Chrismukkah shebang — despite the name, there's a slew of Jewish-inspired dishes, including latkes, kugel and rugelach.

→ SHOWSTOPPER: What says yule like a goose with roasted chestnuts and cranberries? Save the rendered bird fat for a side of sauteed potatoes.

SWEETS



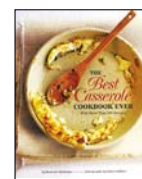
"Jacques Torres: A Year in Chocolate" (\$35, Stewart, Tabori & Chang)
→ THE DEAL: Mr. Chocolate sets 80

recipes against a calendar of celebrations. The desserts tend to be as playful as you'd expect from the pastry god who invented fruit-leather ravioli at Le Cirque: spicy sugar cookies, buche de noels, chocolate-covered matzo's.

→ HAUL IT OUT FOR: Your "Eat More Chocolate" resolution party. Fix caramels, cakes and six kinds of hot cocoa to sweeten (or fatten) up in '09.

→ SHOWSTOPPER: Three baby tiers of cocoa cake baked in measuring cups and iced with you-know-what.

STAY-IN TREATS



"The Best Casserole Cookbook Ever" by Beatrice Ojakangas (\$25, Chronicle)
→ THE DEAL: This

doorstop holds 500 recipes of the sort you'd usually find on Granny's sauce-stained cards.

Think homey, put-it-in-Pyrex fare such as Beef and Artichoke Bake (yum) and Spam and Broccoli Casserole (hmm).

→ HAUL IT OUT FOR: Potlucks and cozy nights at home, such as your annual "It's a Wonderful Life"/"A Christmas Story" marathon.

→ SHOWSTOPPER: Wild Rice Venison Casserole With Cranberries, which would impress both survivalists and game wardens.

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Derek Brown stands near the entrance of the Gibson, a cocktail hideaway where guests can warm up with glasses of glogg.

Just Mull It Over

Blend wine with holiday seasoning for a winter warm-up

Seven years ago, Derek Brown fell in love in a Copenhagen bar. "There was sweetness, then spice," he recalls of the encounter. "And the last bite were these two alcohol-soaked raisins."

It's the classic story of boy meets glogg, boy drinks glogg, boy can't stop thinking about glogg. Except that Brown, former sommelier at Komi and the boozehound behind the Gibson (the new all-cocktail lounge at 2009 14th St. NW), wants to share the love. He's intent on hooking D.C. on his favorite winter beverage, mulled wine, aka vino that's

been heated and infused with spices, fruit and even other alcohol.

The yuletide concoction stars in Brown's Culinaerie seminar "Mulled and Spiced Wines for the Holidays" (Sunday, 4:30 p.m., \$65, 1131 14th St. NW, 202-587-5674; CulinAerie.com) and at his "Holiday Cocktails" class at Bourbon (Tuesday, 6 p.m., \$35, 2321 18th St. NW; Museumoftheamericancocktail.org), which also features Baltimore Eggnog and the Tom and Jerry.

And as his disciples learn to warm and fortify wine, they'll become part of a tradition that extends back to ancient Rome.

"Almost every culture has a mulled wine," Brown explains. Scandinavian glogg and German glühwein are the two best-known varieties, but there are other riffs on the drink all over the continent.

While many recipes rely on

similar flavors — such as citrus, cloves and cinnamon — different countries part ways when it comes to other ingredients. Danes, for instance, take their mulled wine with vodka; Romanians dig a hint of peppercorn.

The base vino, though always red, can differ, too. That's why Rosslyn wine store Domasoteca (1121 N. 19th St., 703-351-1211) will be pouring a rotating roster of four recipes (German, British, French and Italian) in December. Gallic "vin chaud" mixes a Beaujolais Nouveau with cassis, while its glühwein starts with a dry zinfandel and a few glugs of brandy. Manager Christianna Sargent hopes to create a "European holiday" feel with samples on hand and recipe cards so folks can get steeping at home.

Sounds like a smart idea to frequent party host Luke Johnson, who

offers mulled wine at every bash at his U Street pad from Guy Fawkes Day onward. "A lot of entertaining this season is open houses, and you want to serve something that's still good three hours in," explains the 30-year-old technical writer.

Johnson's such a seasoned muller, he's even come up with his own method for making it: He concocts a simple syrup using apple cider and his desired ingredients. "It's so spicy it turns your face inside out," he says. Then he uses this to customize his final blend, so he can offer guests as much — or as little — spice as they think is nice.

Brown recommends a more classic preparation: stuffing spices into a cheesecloth to create a tea bag-esque bundle. Rob Weland, the glogg-obsessed chef at Poste Brasserie (555 8th St. NW; 202-783-6060), prefers making an infusion — leaving cinnamon sticks, crushed cardamom pods, cloves and the like in vodka overnight — then straining the mixture before combining it with wine.

Whatever your preferred cooking style, just be sure to watch the temperature. Boiling removes the alcohol, so that's a no-no. But if the mixture is merely tepid, it's not so hot for warming up guests coming in from the cold, and — even more critically — it won't release those amazing, fragrant vapors.

After all, the aroma is almost as important as the drink, says Weland, who fiddled with his mother-in-law's recipe to create the brew he serves at family holiday functions (and at the restaurant). "It stimulates the senses and just smells like Christmas," he says.

Unless you want your place to have that scent year-round, however, make sure you're serving it in appropriate cups. Hot liquid and wine glasses aren't the best combo. And, as Johnson warns, "It stains like a bitch, so you have to be careful." Ideally, you'll have glass mugs that are easy to hold, and can show off the deep, rich color of the wine. But regular ceramic ones are just fine (or even disposable vessels — just don't tell your eco-friends).

And you'll want to serve something to nibble on other than those raisins. Brown's a fan of pairing glogg with donuts, and Weland

DRINK UP



Glogg

MAKES 3 QUARTS

- 4 cinnamon sticks (broken into pieces)
- 2 tsp cardamom pods
- 2 small pieces of ginger (peeled)
- Grated zest of one orange
- 12 whole cloves
- 1 cup vodka
- 2 750 ml bottles of dry red wine
- 2 cups ruby port or Madeira
- 1 vanilla bean (split)
- 1 cup blanched whole almonds
- 1 cup dark raisins

CRUSH THE CINNAMON and cardamom using a mortar and pestle (or heavy pot and towel). Put them in a small glass jar with ginger, orange zest, cloves and vodka. Let stand for 24 hours. Strain into a large saucepan. Discard spices. Add the red wine, port, vanilla, almonds and raisins, and heat over medium heat until bubbles form around the edges. Serve in mugs, with a few raisins in each one. Keep warm, but do not boil.

COURTESY ROB WELAND, POSTE BRASSERIE

thinks the spices in gingerbread are the perfect match.

But while sweets and mulled wine make a cute couple, one of the best things about the drink is that unlike other seasonal potables, it's not a dessert all on its own. So instead of sipping one-glass wonders like eggnog and hot-buttered rum, you can just keep on drinking the stuff. VICKY HALLETT (EXPRESS)

“THERE WAS SWEETNESS, THEN SPICE. AND THE LAST BITE WERE THESE TWO ALCOHOL-SOAKED RAISINS. IT WAS BALANCED, WITH A PUNCH.”

PARTY LIKE

→ PLUM FIND

The slightly daring neckline of Black Halo's striking keyhole sheath (\$328, Daisy Too, 4940 St. Elmo Ave., Bethesda; 301-656-2280) gets a superheroine-ish vibe via ruffled sleeves.



Ah,
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→ TAKE A BOW

The bold but ultra-flattering teal of this Kay Unger cocktail dress (\$350, Bloomingdale's, 5300 Western Ave., Chevy Chase; 240-744-3700) is tempered by a dark mesh neckline.



→ BELTED UP

An abstract, artsy floral in wintry shades of blue (\$35, H&M, 3222 M St. NW; 202-298-6792) boasts a sweet '60s appeal. Layer it over a dark turtleneck and tights for a casual day look.



→ PLEATS AND TUX

Classic black tie isn't just for this season. BCBG's feminine tuxedo incorporates a preppy bodice and tulip-shaped skirt (Bloomingdale's).

BE A FROCK STAR

holiday parties. They bring with them the annual ritual of horrible hangovers (FYI: Alka-Seltzer works wonders), embarrassing
s by tipsy co-workers and — our personal favorite — many opportunities to get decked out in festive finery. This season's prettiest
blend flirty details (a bold ruffle here, an artful pleat there) with retro-inspired styles from demure "Mad Men" dresses to slinky '70s
es. Here are our picks, whether you're toasting to old friends, the new year or Larry the tech guy's karaoke solo. **BETSY LOWTHER (EXPRESS)**



→ **TOP TIERS**

The high-necked, halter-style shape and neutral shade of this layered frock (\$470, Reiss, 1254 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-944-8565) adds a sophisticated twist to a girly design.

→ **MERRY AND BRIGHT**

We love the day-to-night versatility of this eye-popping roll-collar dress from J. Crew (\$165, 3222 M St. NW; 202-965-4090), making it a great option for after-work gatherings.

→ **CRINKLE CUT**

The textured, touchable fabric of this layered Laila organza dress (\$375, Ginger, 7114 Bethesda Lane, Bethesda; 301-664-9242) offers a stylish update on the stalwart little black dress.

→ **BOLD SHOULDER**

This sleek, asymmetrical, one-shoulder frock (\$380, Reiss) rocks the season's freshest shape. Pair it with strappy heels and prepare to shimmy the night away.

Styles | holidays

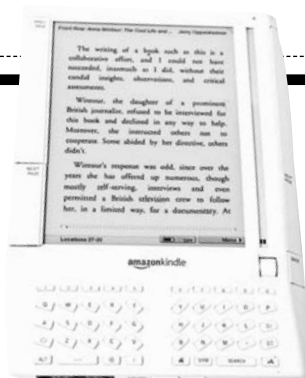
Haul of Fame

PICK UP COOL YULE GIFTS INSPIRED BY THE HOTTEST CELEBRITIES, FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT TO A 'HILLS' STAR

Your brother devoured every text message the Obama campaign spit out. Your college pal is BFF (at least in her mind) with the cast of "Gossip Girl." And your father won't cook dinner without consulting his close advisers Rachael (Ray) and Mario (Batali).

It's as clear as the skin on Angelina's face that we're dwelling in a celeb-fixated world. Not only do we love our famous folks, but we often see ourselves (or our friends and relatives) in them. Who doesn't have a cousin with the same way-right-of-center politics and love of guns and ammo as a certain Alaska politician? And every metrosexual guy on your Facebook friend list probably envies the sartorial style of CNN's man-about-the-world Anderson Cooper.

It figures then, that you can also look to the stars when shopping for holiday gifts. (No, that doesn't mean everyone gets subscriptions to Us Weekly, or that Michelle Obama wants you to knit her a muffler for the inauguration!) Instead, channel famous folks as you choose treasures and trinkets for your own VIPs, be they foodies like Padma Lakshmi or just regular dudes like Seth Rogen. It's sure to make you famous, too, at least among the lucky people on your list. JENNIFER BARGER AND BETSY LOWTHER (EXPRESS)



READ 'EM AND BEEP

Any savvy scholar will swoon over Amazon's Kindle (\$359, Amazon.com), a sleek and surprisingly easy-to-use digital book reader.



HOT TO GLOBE-TROT

For the discerning world traveler: Luxe's European travel set (\$75, Luxecityguides.com) compiles the best restaurants, shops and spas.



ANDERSON COOPER, INTELLECTUAL METROSEXUAL

The well-dressed, well-spoken TV journalist is always flying around the world on assignment, which makes him (or his stylish doppelganger) the perfect candidate for slick travel gear, insider-y city guides and the very latest academic accoutrements.



A BOLDER FOLDER

Pages of documents (or perhaps a working "360" script?) would look polished in this lush portfolio, made from recycled leather (\$44, National Building Museum Shop).



WIPED OUT

If first class isn't an option, clean up in coach with scented towelettes (\$6, National Building Museum Shop, 401 F St. NW; 202-272-2448).



CLEAR AMBITION

Any major mover and shaker needs a spiffy card holder like this cool transparent vinyl version, available in multiple colors (\$14, National Building Museum Shop).



BOTTLE SQUAWK

Padma loves her some Barolo, which she can pop open with Alessi's parrot wine opener (\$54, RCKNDY, 1515 U St. NW; 202-332-5639).

DICE SQUAD

Chop, slice and dump curry ingredients easily into a pan with hot-hued cutting boards (\$15-\$20, Home Rule, 1807 14th St. NW; 202-797-5544).

PADMA LAKSHMI, 'TOP CHEF' HOST, FOODIE

Like Nigella Lawson (but taller and miraculously thin), the Indian-born author/model/gourmet is known for both looking good and cooking well. Get your own kitchenista cuisine-related gifts as spicy as she is.



HOT CHOCOLATE

Indulge her sweet tooth (and chili-head soul) with Vosges Haut-Chocolat's new Red Fire Toffee (\$20, Vosgeschocolate.com), an exotic combo of pecans, chili, butter toffee and dark chocolate.



SALAD DAZE

How does a foodie stay slim? By tossing arugula with horn tongs when not judging caloric cooking shows (\$35, Homebody, 715 Eighth St. SE; 202-544-8445).

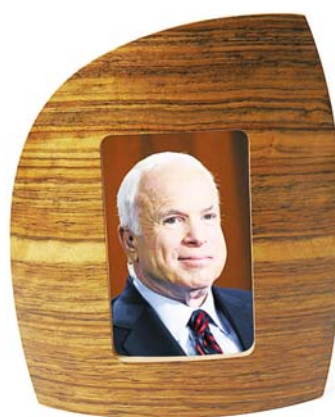
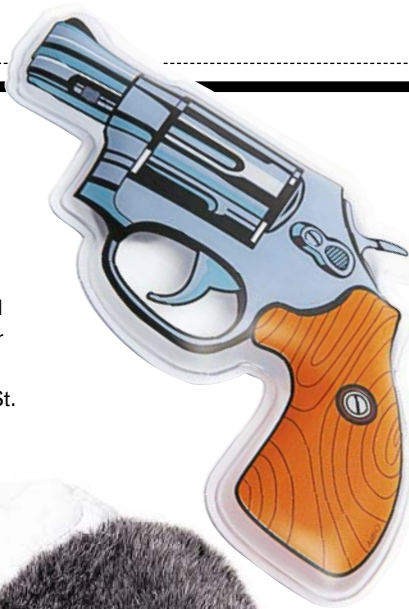


SPLATTER SAVER

Padma struts around the "Top Chef" kitchen in miniskirts and high heels. Let her cover up stylishly in a pink apron (\$20, Hill's Kitchen, 713 D St. SE; 202-543-1997).

holidays | **Styles****HAPPINESS IS A WARM GUN**

Keep hands toasty during snowmobile rides with Fred's pistol hand warmers (two for \$6, International Spy Museum Shop, 800 F St. NW; 202-393-7798).

**MAVERICK MEMORIES**

Help her keep friends (or frenemies) close on her busy desk with a rustic-yet-mod Amazaque wood frame (\$45, National Building Museum Shop, 401 F St. NW; 202-272-2448).

FUR YOUR EARS ONLY

OK, so no timber wolves were harmed in the making of this ear-flap hat. But it's still warm enough for Wasilla (\$32, Nana, 1528 U St. NW, 202-667-6955).

**SARAH PALIN, EX VEEP CANDIDATE, HOCKEY MOM**

Sassy Sarahcuda has so many hobbies — shooting, campaigning, palling around with moose and wolves! Indulge an outdoorsy-yet-glam regular gal like her with wintry wonders and rugged home accessories.

**ANIMAL ATTRACTIVE**

Make her bipartisanly posh with a necklace of faux pearls plus elephant, donkey and polar bear beads (\$68, Anthropologie.com).

**WILD LIFE OF THE PARTY**

Does your Sarah slam whiskey? She'll dig the game-lodge vibe of these moose or rhino shot glasses (\$35, RCKNDY, 1515 U St. NW; 202-332-5639).

**RAISE THE WOOF**

Whichever sort of puppy Sasha and Malia's dad chooses, it'll look cuter on Rose Garden (or Dupont Circle) walks wearing a striped leash and collar set (\$68, Trixieandpeanut.com).

**BARACK OBAMA, FUTURE PREZ, HOPEMONGER**

He's the most famous celebrity in the world! And that didn't stop most of you from voting for him, so you must like him. Help Obama — or another busy D.C. guy — easily transition to his new office and pad with organizational, inspiring and just-plain useful presents.

PEACE TALK

Why not promote your anti-war stance with a gift? A 4-foot-diameter piece of license-plate wall art could go in the Oval (or any) Office (\$2,200, Uncommongoods.com).

**SAUCE BOSS**

Obama puts hot sauce on all his vittles. We propose he splash D.C.-made Uncle Brutha's potions on his Chicago pizza (\$6, Hill's Kitchen).

LIST OPPORTUNITIES

For a guy who has a heap of work to do: notepads that inspire lofty goals (\$5.50 each, Pulp, 1803 14th St. NW; 202-462-7857).

GO FIGURE

Cabinet members, daughters, minions. Barry can track his many peeps with people-shaped push pins (\$7, National Building Museum Shop).



Styles | holidays



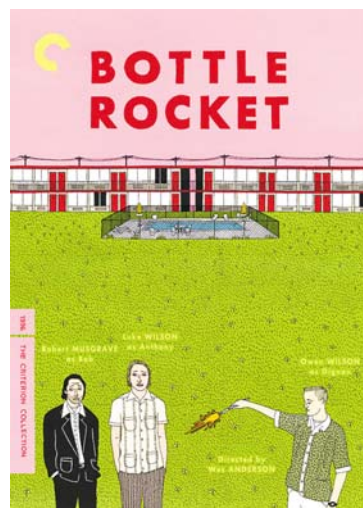
SMILES WITH SIZZLE

This bacon-flavored floss (\$9, Fredflare.com) might not be exactly what the dentist has in mind, but we say anything that encourages good hygiene can't be a bad thing.



COMIC RELIEF

This superhero-themed merino-angora knit scarf from the British Apparel Company (\$170, Vivre.com) manages to be plush and playful at the same time.



FUNNY-BOY FLICK

Luke and Owen Wilson's first bromance, "Bottle Rocket," finally earns cult status with a new Criterion Collection DVD (\$40, Criterion.com).



SETH ROGEN BEER-SWILLING TEDDY BEAR

Sure, he's prone to boisterous burps and he spends every Sunday on the couch watching sports, but there's just something so affable and appealing about the ultimate guy's guy. Since you can't make football season into a year-round pastime (thank goodness), try these gifts instead.



GREEN SLEEVES

He'll love the downplayed-grunge appeal of this printed tee by Wet Cement (\$89, Caramel, 1603 U St. NW; 202-265-1930); you'll love its super-soft organic cotton and cutting-edge design.



BEER-BELLIED

He still might prefer sweats to suits, but getting dressed will be more appealing with a cheeky belt adorned with needlepoint brews (\$160, Smathersandbranson.com).



ALL TIED UP

Kiel Mead's whimsical Forget Me Knot necklace (\$250, Uncommongoods.com) is a hot fashion accessory — even for those not trying to extend their 15 minutes.



TOASTY TOES

When feet need a break from stilettos, White + Warren's eco-cashmere slippers (\$175, Simplysoles.com) are a chic backup plan. OMG!

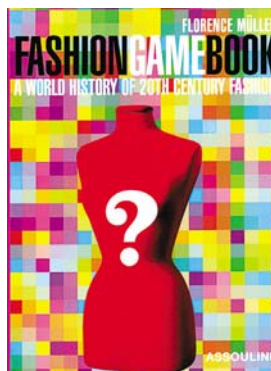
LAUREN CONRAD, ASPIRING A-LISTER, FASHIONISTA

With her ever-present PDA, perfect blond highlights and propensity for high drama, the "Hills" starlet — or your aspiring fashionista best friend — would settle for nothing less than these ultra-stylish finds.



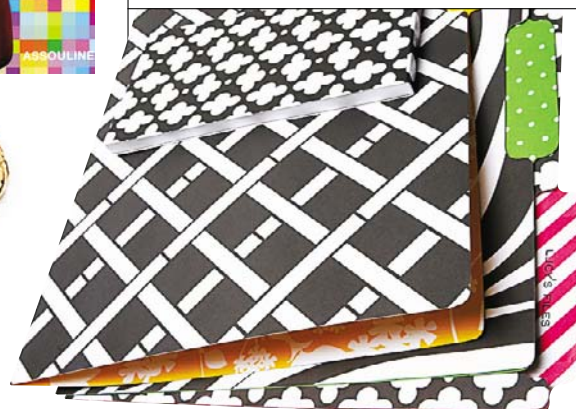
STUDY GUIDE

Part-quiz, part-history book, this colorful, comprehensive read (\$35, Assouline.com) recounts the fashion industry's major milestones from the last century.



POCKET WARES

These pretty, patterned mirrors (\$6.50, Pinklovesbrown.com) are perfectly purse-sized, making it easy to do a quick makeup check if the paparazzi are around.



COOL SUPPLIES

While we might not suggest following L.C.'s example of spotty classroom attendance, these slick folders (\$30 for six, Dabneyleeathome.com) help make schoolwork look more stylish.

B.I.O.

* BY INVITATION ONLY: UPCOMING WEDDINGS & UNIONS



Mark Bailey, Lauren Reigard

Mark, 25, is a research engineer at the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Lauren, 25, is a management analyst at the Department of Veterans Affairs. They live in Alexandria.

- **The Main Event:** One hundred fifty guests will assemble at the Heinz Memorial Chapel in Pittsburgh on Aug. 22 for an evening wedding.
- **How They Met:** At an ice-skating mixer sponsored by her sorority and his fraternity in January 2004.

■ **First Date:** Saturday evening Mass with a romantic dinner at the student union cafeteria afterward.

■ **How He Proposed:** "Mark proposed on the morning of my parents' 28th wedding anniversary. We were visiting Pittsburgh, and he dragged me out of bed at 7 a.m. to take pictures of our university's campus. He had planned on proposing the whole time and wanted to do it early so there would be no gawkers. He asked me right in front of the chapel we're getting married in."

■ **Their Song:** "'7 Things I Hate About You' by Miley Cyrus because we've had some serious ups and downs, but in the end, like the song, we're undeniably wild about each other," Lauren says. But Mark says, "We always dance to Michael Buble's 'The Best is Yet to Come,' but Miley's song is a better song about our relationship."

"He asked me right in front of the chapel we're getting married in."



Strangers on a Train

It's one thing to open your heart to another; it's quite another to open your ears. **STEVEN RIXEN, 25**, first encountered **ERICA GIERS, 25**, when he overheard her chatting with friends on the platform at the East Capitol Metro station. Erica was on her way home from a reception and admits she was "talking loudly about Justin Timberlake." That said, she remembers, "Steve was eavesdropping on me. I called him out on it. We got on the train and talked nonstop all the way to Virginia."

They arranged to meet for half-price burgers at Bullfeathers on First Street SE. "I was an intern on the Hill, and she was being kind by letting me slide on the cheap first date," Steve recalls.

After dating for four years, on March 23, 2008, it was Erica's turn to listen. Steven hid a ring in an Easter egg and proposed. The Capitol Hill scheduler said yes.

The couple will be married in the church the bride attended as a child in Northampton, Mass., on April 4. She plans to walk down the aisle to "Forever" by Ben Harper.



Jason Bouleris, Adrienne Mingione

Jason, 29, is a technical assistant. Adrienne, 27, is a law clerk. They live in Arlington.

■ **The Main Event:** A formal ceremony on Dec. 20 in Latham, N.Y. Jason's aunt will officiate. The couple are thinking of walking down the aisle to "Highway to Hell." "But we'll probably end up [taking] the more traditional route," Adrienne explains.

■ **How They Met:** At a friend's house party. Adrienne needed a fourth person to play darts with, and Jason was standing the closest to her at the time.

■ **First Impressions:** "[I thought] that she was crazy." "I thought he was a cop."

■ **How He Proposed:** Adrienne was doing a kakuro puzzle in bed when Jason came home from work, jumped in bed, slipped the ring on her finger and popped the question.

■ **Honeymoon:** A week in St. Lucia.

■ **Stupidest Fight:** "Over who was going to kill whom first after we got married," Adrienne recalls.

■ **Most Hated Clothing Item:** "All his T-shirts that have 'witty' little social comments." "Her granny panties."



Getting Married? If you'd like to see your wedding or commitment ceremony in B.I.O., send your favorite informal photograph (wacky is fine, but please don't send a formal engagement shot), plus your names and ceremony date to weddings@readexpress.com. Please contact us at least one month before your wedding. We'll get back to you with some questions as your big day approaches.



» Weddings Wanted

The bad news: Due to the winter wedding slowdown, B.I.O. may not appear every week. The good news: If you submit now, you won't have to wait weeks or months to be featured. Don't worry if your wedding is months away — that's fine! Just send an e-mail to weddings@readexpress.com to get the ball rolling.



MyLife Home SearchSM

Revolutionize the way you find your home On-Line. **Find your home. Plan your Life.**

C O M I N G L A T E F A L L 2 0 0 8